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# Notley says no sales tax

LEGISLATURE

## Premier not specific on when budget will be tabled

Rachel Notley, in her first question period as premier of Alberta, promised Tuesday that her NDP government will not bring in a sales tax.

It was one of several finance questions Notley faced in the first full day of debate in the legislature under the new NDP government.

"We have no intention of bringing in a sales tax," Notley told the house after being questioned by Wildrose Leader Brian Jean.

Members debated a bill to ban corporate and union donations to

political parties along with a bill to hike taxes on large corporations and on the wealthy.

There was also an interim supply bill to keep money flowing to government until the NDP brings in a budget for the 2015-16 fiscal year sometime in the fall.

Notley has said the budget will be tabled sometime in the fall but has not been more specific.

Jean urged Notley to bring in a budget by Sept. 7, saying Albertans and businesses need cost certainty.

Notley said the budget presented by former PC

premier Jim Prentice was soundly rejected by voters in the election in favour of the NDP's plan.

"We don't want to introduce Prentice 2.0," said Notley.

### PREVIOUS BUDGET

The former Progressive Conservative government introduced a budget this spring, but it did not pass before the election.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



## PIANO PARTY

Public pianos aren't just for public use. A new project will see professional pianists like Kenna Burima tickling the ivories. Coverage, **metroNEWS**. HELEN PIKE/METRO

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# One man's noxious weed is another man's lunch

## DANDELIONS

**But unruly lawns causing disputes with neighbours**



**Helen Pike**  
Metro | Calgary

While some Calgarians and city councillors are just dandy with their crusade against the overwhelming weeds, others take to their own backyards to harvest its healthy greens and tops for salads, teas, wines and other fresh treats.

In her Ramsay home, Paulie Duhaime has a crop of her own. She harvests the roots and young leaves from plants in her yard because she knows they are safe and haven't been sprayed.

She and many other Calgarians pick the plant to eat.

"I can understand the desire to manage the dandelions in (public) places. However, I do not support the use of heavy duty herbicides," says Duhaime.

She says homeowners should either practice safe management techniques or lower their standards instead of opting for a "perfect lawn."

But there are those in Calgary who run into some neighbourly disputes over their



**Dandelions are no longer considered a noxious weed under the weed control act, meaning officers can only give out warnings.** METRO FILE

apparent lack of lawn care.

One resident who spoke to Metro didn't want to be named for fear of negative backlash. The resident harvests the leaves for tea, but a neighbour threatened a bylaw call.

Shalara Olliffe, who lives in Cochrane, said her backyard is more lion than lawn. She

**"I don't like to let them go to seed because then that would really be imposing on my neighbours, so I do try and take their tops off."**

Resident Shalara Olliffe

doesn't let the little ones go to seed and cuts them down to use while they are still "young." "Much to my neighbour's

dismay I let my dandelions grow," said Olliffe. "I don't like to let them go to seed because then that would really be imposing on my neighbours, so I do try and take their tops off."

The Leaf Ninja team, an edible landscaping firm in Calgary, told Metro although they don't use dandelions in their projects, they have unique uses in nature.

"We understand that they have their benefits and their drawbacks," read their email statement. "The value to pollinators is very important as dandelions are one of the first food sources in the spring."

The good neighbour practices reference guide published by Community Services and Protective Services dictates weeds and grass in residential areas and vacant lots must be less than 15 centimetres in height. The guide reads weeds should be "kept under control so they don't spread from your property."

But dandelions are no longer considered a "noxious weed" under the weed control act meaning officers can only give out warnings.

The Leaf Ninja team said dandelion control should be a joint effort among neighbours, cities and municipalities.

"Managing dandelions before they go to seed is an important piece of knowledge for coexisting with these plants," they said.

## PUBLIC SPACES

# Growth going wild

In what both anecdotal observation and more rigorous analysis have deemed a bad year for dandelions, Calgary city council voted Tuesday to look at a change in strategy in controlling the much-hated weed.

"This year has arguably been the worst year on record — or recent memory, anyway," said Coun. Peter Demong, who led the rhetorical charge to find ways to stamp out the yellow-flowered plant from city grass.

So far, 2015 has indeed seen particularly acute dandelion proliferation, not just in Calgary, but Canada-wide, said Chris Manderson, the city's natural area management lead.

"This is a really good year for dandelions," he said. "It's warm and dry." The best solution to control the weeds is to maintain healthy turf, he added.

"The challenge we have ... is that it isn't always as healthy as we like," he said, noting areas near roadways that get sprayed with street salt and gravel often grow more dandelions.

Council voted overwhelmingly in favour of having Manderson and other staff bring back a report on additional options by October, in time for potential new spending to be approved during November budget deliberations.

Coun. Druh Farrell voted against the plan, saying the city should look away from the "monoculture" of grass and introduce more resilient ground cover like clover in order to better control weeds. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO



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## HOMELESSNESS

## Advocates push for government support

Homelessness across Alberta has decreased by 15 per cent in absolute terms, and by 15 per cent in Calgary per capita since 2008, according to the latest annual report from the Calgary Homeless Foundation.

"We still have about 3,500 people (in Calgary) living homeless...that we need to get housed," foundation CEO Diana Krecsy said on Tuesday.

"And we need to work with the city on that, because the next big heavy lifting to end chronic homelessness by 2018 is that we must have municipal and provincial support to get land."

Krecsy was referring specifically to the Resolve Campaign, a partnership of local non-profit agencies and homebuilders with the goal of housing 3,000 homeless people in Calgary.

Many of the pieces are in place to start making that happen, Krecsy said, but there's one big part missing: land to

build on.

"We have the money. We have the grants. We have 11 homebuilders in Calgary who have stepped up, donated and are willing to build," Krecsy said. "Give me five pieces of land and we can put another five buildings up in Calgary that will house people."

66

**We're going to extract every ounce of value we can from existing resources to get people housed.**

Tim Richter

In a separate announcement Tuesday, the Calgary-based Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness, headed up by former Calgary Homeless Foundation CEO Tim Richter, launched its own "20,000 Homes Campaign,"

aimed at housing people in 21 communities across the country.

"We're going to extract every ounce of value we can from existing resources to get people housed," Richter said in a release. "But to end homelessness in Canada we will need meaningful federal investment in affordable and supportive housing." ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO



Part of the Wreck City curator team pose under an art piece made from cassette tape. HELEN PIKE/METRO

## Ready to Wreck things

## ARTS

### Collective's curators say expect the unexpected

**Helen Pike**  
Metro | Calgary

There's an art to the perfect demo tape — it's a little rough around the edges, it's a little raw — but for Calgary's Wreck City collective, the theme of

their latest endeavour is bringing forward many iterations and interpretations of car-wash themes melded with the analog demo tape.

On Friday, the long-awaited Penguin car wash will be open — not for business, but for the public to explore the various artistic installations that have taken over the building before its eventual demolition.

Walking through the created rooms, spectators can expect anything from the experience of being inside of a snow globe to chatting in hushed tones so as to not disturb a shy light

dimmed by the decibel level in the room.

Jennifer Crighton said to expect the unexpected — it's nothing like other Wreck City projects, because no two have been alike.

Brandon Dalmer, another curator, said the neighbourhood seems happy to have them, and are excited something is happening with the once-empty space, but are sometimes confused about whether they still can get their cars washed.

"I think they're going to be pretty receptive once it's actually on," said Dalmer.

### + MORE INFO

For more information on the hours, performances, panel discussions and more visit wreckcity.ca.

The building, which is located just beside the CP rail tracks, wedged at the intersection of Inglewood and Ramsay on 8 Street SE, is hosting around 50 artists. The opening day will include a number of live band performances from artists in the project.

## POLITICS

## Nenshi brushes off popularity poll

**Robson Fletcher**  
Metro | Calgary

Mayor Naheed Nenshi is questioning the accuracy of a poll released Tuesday showing declining popular support for his leadership.

Overall, Nenshi scored an approval rating of 57 per cent, while council as a whole scored 51 per cent approval.

The approval rating for Nenshi shows a marked decrease from his voter numbers in the last Calgary civic election, which garnered him more than 70 per cent of the vote. "For me, it's important to

have good data," Nenshi told reporters Tuesday afternoon. "I'm not convinced that this particular poll is good data."

The mayor noted the poll by Mainstreet Technologies was conducted over a single day — "a sunny, summer Sunday," at that — and the sample of Calgarians doesn't match the city's actual demographics.

The poll surveyed a random sample of 1,319 Calgary residents using IVR technology via landline and cellphones. The margin of error is plus or minus 2.7 per cent, 19 times out of 20.

Less than 10 per cent of poll respondents were in the 18-to-34 age range, the mayor noted,

while that age range makes up about 33 per cent of Calgarians.

He also noted that 77 per cent of the poll respondents were over the age of 50.

"So this is, I'm sorry to say, not a representative poll," Nenshi said.

David Valentin of Mainstreet Technologies defended the poll's methodology, however, noting the results were weighted "to reflect Calgary's population" in what is a standard practice for these types of surveys.

"We used the same process as our Alberta election polls which correctly predicted an NDP majority government," Valentin told Metro.



Naheed Nenshi METRO FILE



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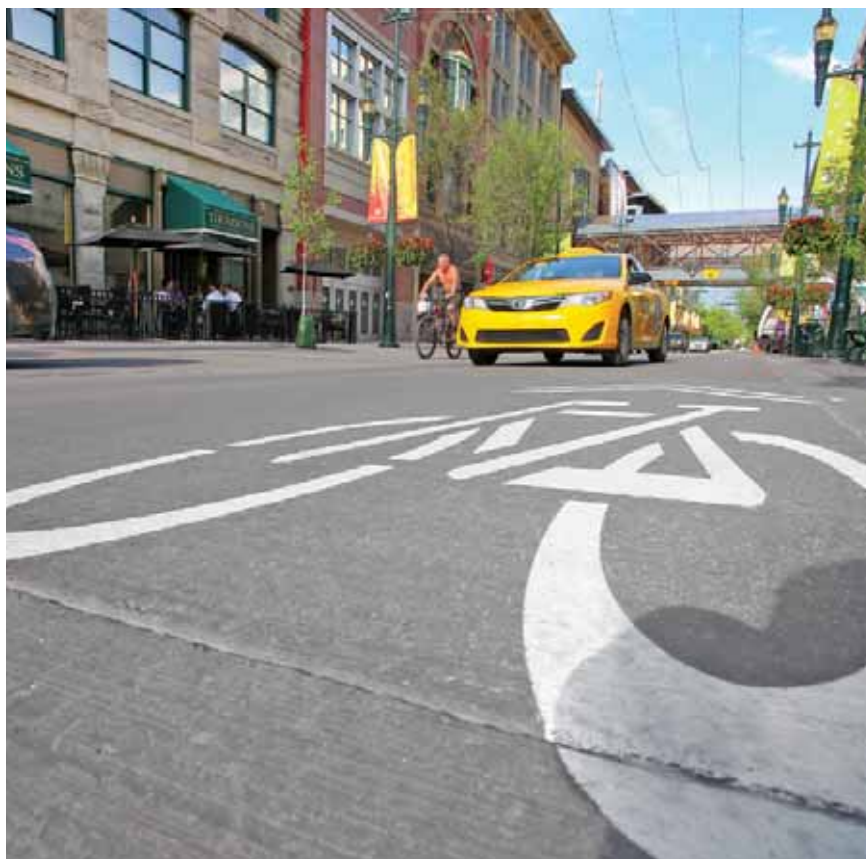
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New cycling markers have recently been painted on Stephen Avenue, seen here Tuesday evening. During the daytime, the route was restricted to pedestrians only, but that will change as part of the Centre City Cycle Track Network pilot project. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

# Day cycling OK'd for Stephen Ave.

CITY HALL

## Coun. Chu concerned about bikes on walkway



**Robson Fletcher**  
Metro | Calgary

City council approved bylaw changes Tuesday to pave the way for the full opening of the Centre City Cycle Track Network, while a last-ditch effort by one councillor to restrict riding on the Stephen Avenue portion was voted down.

Coun. Sean Chu wanted to ban cyclists from using the east-west route between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. due to the high volume of people walking on the pedestrian mall during lunchtime.

Stephen Avenue has historically been prohibited to both motor vehicles and bicycles during the day.

During earlier discussions

about the cycle-track network, city staff had considered time-of-day restrictions for the leg of the cycling network that ran down Stephen Avenue.

Even with a proposed cycling ban between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. in a draft version of the plan Calgary Downtown Association executive director Maggie Schofield saw in February 2014, she still had concerns about introducing bike traffic to the pedestrian-heavy roadway.

"Our biggest concern is around even entertaining the idea of having cyclists on Stephen Avenue," Schofield told Metro at the time. "It just doesn't make any sense."

Chu referenced that draft plan in his plea to restrict riding on Tuesday.

"Administration has already said it's not going to work, but now we're going to put cyclists onto a pedestrian walkway?" the Ward 4 councillor said during deliberation on the bylaw changes required to allow bikes on the route during the day.

Coun. Diane Colley-Urquhart, however, said Chu's concerns

“

**I don't want to continue to undermine the pilot project.**

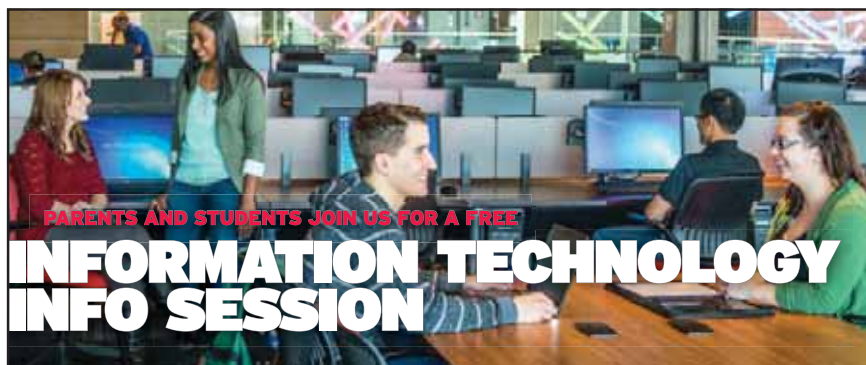
Coun. Diane Colley-Urquhart

were "without merit."

She noted cyclists, pedestrians and motor vehicles peacefully co-exist on busy roadways in other countries, and it's something people become accustomed to.

She also said it was too late to start making changes to the cycle-track pilot project, which was approved by council last year and is set to open fully by the end of the month.

"I was not one of the supporters of the cycle track initially but that ship has sailed and I'm looking forward to the results of it," Colley-Urquhart said. "I don't want to continue to undermine the pilot project. I want it to be successful. We've invested a lot of money in this."



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Environmental groups worry about plans to develop Lake Louise over the next 42 years. THE CANADIAN PRESS

DEVELOPMENT

## Ski plan for Banff raises concerns

Parks Canada is rushing through new guidelines that would allow too much development at a ski hill in Banff National Park, an environmental group said Tuesday.

"The increased impact of commercial development in the parks is a huge concern," said Sean Nichols, conservation specialist with the Alberta Wilderness Association.

At the beginning of June, Parks Canada released guidelines for development and use of Lake Louise. The document, crafted in consultation with ski hill management, is intended to guide development for the

next 42 years.

The guidelines involve re-moving about 1,000 hectares from the resort's leasehold in exchange for permission to put runs on a currently unused 500 hectares.

They would also allow the hill to build several warming huts and a large facility on the top of Mount Whitehorn.

The new mountaintop facility would become the focus of the resort's summer activities, leaving the mid-mountain off limits to humans and for the use of animals such as grizzly bears. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## IN BRIEF

### Man dies in rollover

A man has died after his vehicle rolled over on an Alberta highway near High River Tuesday afternoon.

Paramedics were called to Highway 2 and Highway 540 around 12:30 p.m. where they found a lone adult male involved in a single vehicle rollover.

Crews attempted to resuscitate him on scene, but the injuries he sustained were too severe. Paramedics determined him dead on scene shortly after, according to an EMS release. METRO

### High school to be named after Nelson Mandela

Nelson Mandela's name will adorn one of Calgary's newest high schools. The CBE announced a new high school in the city's northeast will be named after the former South African president and anti-apartheid advocate.

The name was chosen by a committee of students, parents and community members and approved by the CBE Board of Trustees.

The school is expected to open September 2016 for Grades 10 and 11 and to expand to include Grade 12 students in 2017. METRO



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## DRUGS

# City moves to regulate pot businesses

Calgary will look at ways to specifically regulate marijuana-related businesses in an effort to get ahead of the potential proliferation of retail locations providing pot-related services — and possibly pot, itself — after council agreed unanimously to the move on Tuesday.

"We don't want to end up like the Lower Mainland," Coun. Diane Colley-Urquhart said, referring to the situation

in the Vancouver area that has seen numerous storefronts actually dispensing marijuana in addition to selling related products and services.

Chief city planner Rolin Stanley said the Vancouver situation is "much different than what's currently happening in Calgary" but added it would make sense for the city to "get ahead of" the issue by updating land-use bylaws to address marijuana services,

specifically.

The plan approved Tuesday calls on city staff to develop "rules that manage clustering, proliferation and separation from schools" of businesses related to medical marijuana.

The document also calls on the city to "encourage future owners of medical marijuana counselling businesses to consult with the local community and neighbours and to consider the use of a Good Neighbour

Agreement."

Mayor Naheed Nenshi said it makes sense for the city to develop a policy, given the complicated legal framework in which medical marijuana exists.

"It is unbelievable, the legal situation we are in right now," he said.

Colley-Urquhart agreed. "The federal government has totally mismanaged the whole issue of marijuana," she said.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

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Police have provided footage of a suspect in a string of tanning salon robberies in Calgary. CONTRIBUTED

# Salons burned by thieves

## CRIME

## Calgary sees string of break-ins at tanning spots



**Anna Brooks**  
 Metro | Calgary

Hide your tanning lotion and expensive bottles of coconut oil — the tanning-salon thieves have hit town.

Det. Jack Russell of Calgary police said that since Feb. 24 of this year, there have been 14 tanning-salon break-and-enters, nine of which were Fabutan Sun Tan Studios in Calgary.

To date, more than \$28,000 worth of products has been stolen. Russell said tanning salons may have been targeted because products are typically left out on front counters or in display windows.

"Why they're just stealing suntan lotion, I don't know," Russell said.

Michelle Le, director of

operations at Fabutan head office in Calgary, said the break-ins "have been quite alarming" and believes Fabutans might have been targeted because of the high-priced retail products they carry.

"We have never dealt with robberies of this magnitude at our locations before," Le said. "These robberies have been a strain on our business, as our products were stolen and we had to repair property damages, which are quite costly."

Det. Russell said all the robberies took place overnight and that the suspects broke in using rocks or an axe to smash the front doors of businesses.

Russell said police are enlisting the public's help in locating the culprits as they now appear to be moving out of Calgary.

"They're now going down to Strathmore, and we're led to believe they've targeted Lethbridge, as well," Russell added.

Police describe both suspects as male, wearing dark hoodies, gloves and balaclavas over their faces. One suspect wears glasses and has a goatee.

# 14

Since Feb. 24, there have been 14 break-and-enters at tanning salons in Calgary.



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# Resource centres team up for mental health support

## HEALTH

## Service coming for friends and family of the mentally ill



**Anna Brooks**  
Metro | Calgary

If someone close to you suffers from mental illness, how do you cope?

The complexities around mental health support systems for family members have prompted Calgary organizations to join forces to make services more accessible.

Cindy Negrello, director of client services at the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), Calgary region, said come fall, CMHA will partner with Fresh Start Recovery Centre to provide a more holistic support system for friends and family of those dealing with addiction or mental illness.

Negrello said because mental health and addiction so often go hand-in-hand but are treated distinctly, combining resources would make support services more accessible.

"Our partnership with Fresh Start is around the concept of really working with families so they can better understand their loved ones' addictions and mental health concerns," Negrello said.

Kim Gieck has struggled with depression for years. Managing to get by taking anti-depressants, Gieck said things took a turn for the worse after she was diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy three years ago.

Unable to work or drive because of her condition, Gieck said her depression began to take over her life. Gieck said no one, not even her husband, has been able to understand what she's going through.

"He kept telling me to snap out of it and that I'm doing it to myself," Gieck said. "People don't want to hear about it — they think you're crazy."

Gieck said her depression grew so unbearable she thought about committing suicide. Again, no one she loved in her life seemed to understand what she was going through.

"It's beyond sadness. Every morning I would see a dark cloud coming towards me.... It would envelop me, and that was it," she said. "Depression still has a terrible stigma attached to it. Why are we ashamed of having or knowing someone with mental illness?"

Negrello said there's still a lot of fear around mental illness, which makes it all the more critical for organizations to reach out and help families in need.

"There's a lot of secrecy around it. I think that's where people begin to struggle around their family members. But that's where blending programs can ... really un-peel the layers behind what's going on."

10

Starting in September, CMHA and Fresh Start will be offering a 10-week family support and healing program for family members dealing with mental health and addiction on a more therapeutic level.



The Canadian Mental Health Association in Calgary is partnering with Fresh Start Recovery Centre in Calgary to provide a dual-service program for friends and family trying to cope with a loved one suffering from mental illness and addiction. METRO FILE PHOTO

## JUSTICE

## Mountie's death spurs review of bail process

Alberta is reviewing its bail procedures following the murder of a Mountie in January.

The review is to determine who should conduct bail hearings and under what circumstances, Justice Minister Kathleen Ganley announced Tuesday.

"We need to know if an improved bail process can respect people's rights but at the same time better protect our communities and the police," Ganley told a news conference at the legislature.

It will be conducted by someone outside Alberta's justice system, she added.

Ganley ordered the review following the release of a report into the death of RCMP Const. David Wynn, who was shot at a casino in St. Albert on Jan. 17.

His partner, auxiliary Const. Derek Bond was wounded but survived.

They had entered the casino in the early morning hours to investigate a stolen truck.

The killer, Shawn Rehn, was found dead hours later at a home east of St. Albert.

Rehn had a lengthy history of criminal and violent behaviour, but was free after a bail hearing where a police officer — and not a Crown prosecutor — was present.

The case raised the question of whether Crown prosecutors, with more courtroom experience, should attend all bail hearings.

Deputy Commissioner Marianne Ryan says the Mounties support the bail review.

"The RCMP in Alberta welcomes any initiative that contributes to enhanced public safety," Ryan said in a statement.

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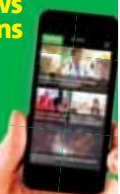


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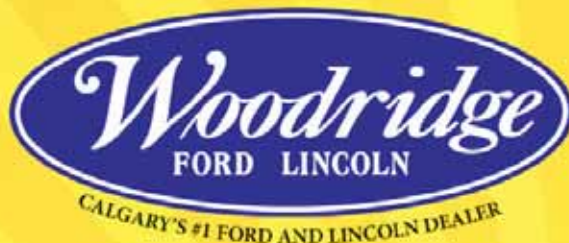
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## JOY RIDE

## Truck thief drops off passenger, 6, safely

Calgary police are still trying to locate a stolen vehicle after a thief took a six-year-old along on his joy ride and then left the child at a nearby truck stop.

At approximately 1:10 p.m., Calgary police were called to a business in the 4900 block of 126 Avenue SE after a father left his truck running and unlocked with his child inside.

The father entered the business and, while he was inside, an unknown man got into the vehicle and took off with the child inside.

Shortly after, police were called to a truck stop down the street near 11500 Street SE after the child was dropped off there safe and sound.

Police said the father was quickly reunited with his child. But his dark grey 2012 Dodge Ram 1500 Laramie edition, with Alberta licence plate BMT 7552, has not been located. It was described as having a black vinyl tonneau cover, chrome running boards, a grey leather interior and a large scrape on the passenger side of the box.

The suspect is described as dark in complexion, 30 to 40 years old and clean shaven with a multi-coloured tattoo on his right upper arm.

Anyone with information is asked to call police at 403-266-1234, or Crime Stoppers anonymously.

METRO



2012 Dodge Ram Laramie is missing. CONTRIBUTED

## CRIME

## Police seeking man after bank robbery

Calgary police are looking for a suspect after a man robbed a 17 Avenue Scotiabank Monday.

Around 4 p.m., a man entered the Scotiabank located in the 3400 block of 17 Avenue SW. He presented a robbery note and escaped with an undisclosed amount of money.

No one was injured.

The suspect was described as Caucasian, around 19 to 20 years old, with blond hair. He was approximately 5-foot-7 to

5-foot-8 tall, with a thin build and pale complexion. The suspect was last seen wearing a black jacket, black ball cap, black sunglasses and carrying a black laptop bag with grey lining.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact the Calgary Police Service Robbery Unit at 403-428-8787 or Crime Stoppers anonymously.

METRO STAFF



Archaeologists Mary Attia, left, Janet Blakey, centre, and Kevin Thorson excavate a tipi ring in Fish Creek Park Tuesday on the site of the 2013 Alberta flood. LUCIE EDWARDS/ON FOR METRO

# 'Unearthing history' on site of 2013 flood

## ARCHAEOLOGY

## Dig turns up bison bones, pottery pieces

**Lucie  
Edwardson**  
For Metro | Calgary

Janet Blakey held dozens of small ziplock bags in her hands, filled with all kinds of treasures, from bison bones to pottery pieces, all of which are thousands of years old.

Blakey, an assistant project archaeologist, and her team are

sultants with Alberta Culture and Tourism with the flood impact assessment.

The project is Alberta Culture and Tourism's three-year plan to address impacts of the 2013 southern Alberta flooding.

"We have found tipi-ring rocks (remnants of native encampments) and we also have some bison bone and such in the floor of the excavation," she said. "And from our second occupation we have all kinds of little artifacts including metal tools."

The dig site was occupied by people approximately 2,000 years ago, Blakey said, and

**2,000**

Number of years since people occupied the flood dig site. It was occupied again between 500 and 1,000 years ago.

again between 500 and 1,000 years ago, but when the historic floods rolled through in 2013 they destroyed many archaeological and paleontological sites, including parts of the site being worked on in Fish Creek Park.

But Daryl Bereziuk, Director of Archaeological Heritage for

Alberta Culture and Tourism said that there's a silver lining.

"(The flood) uncovered portions of the site that we didn't know about," he said.

"Finding something like this, like a buried tipi ring is quite significant for the city of Calgary."

Terry Quinn, a volunteer at the site, said being a part of a dig like this one is exciting. "You never know what you might find," he said. "We are unearthing history."

Bereziuk said once the excavation is complete at the end of the week, the park will undergo slope stabilization to fix parts of pathways that were washed away.

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Artist Kenna Burima plays the woodlands piano, located in front of Cafe Artigiano on the corner of 6 Avenue and 3 Street SW. HELEN PIKE/METRO

## Pros to play city pianos

### MUSIC

### Official says there will be 20 performances



**Helen Pike**  
Metro | Calgary

The hustle and bustle of Calgary downtown will be interrupted this summer by a number of community concertos.

Artists from all different disciplines: blues, jazz, pop, rock and classical will be stroking the keys on some of Calgary's public pianos.

The beautifully-designed pianos, made custom by Jesse Moffatt, have been on Calgary's streets for three years, but this year, in a whole new effort to include and support performers in the downtown core, pianos will feature professional musicians for special performances.

It's a chance for local pianists to tickle the ivories for a whole different kind of audience. The pop-up performances are being curated by local musician Kenna Burima, who's already started compiling a list of what she describes as a vast talent pool for keyboardists in Calgary.

"I don't know what it is with Calgary and pianos, but there

seems to be a love affair," said Burima. "Being able to play to people as they walk by ... it's a different audience because most of my shows happen in bars, which means I only hit a certain group of people ... this is just another unique performance opportunity."

She said she's hoping to engage Calgarians with the program and start up a request system, so spectators can have a say in what they hear play.

Maggie Schofield with the Calgary Downtown Association said there will be 20 performances over the summer.

Tourists, workers, and Calgarians can expect to hear expert performances every Tuesday and Thursday during the lunch hour by some of Calgary's most renowned pianists.

"We like to support local artists, so we want to continue doing that, particularly in these economic times," said Schofield. "We thought it might be an ideal opportunity to do a few performances throughout the summer that would actually hire local artists."

She added that although there will be scheduled times for professional performances, members of the public are still encouraged and asked to create performances of their own by playing the pianos when they're free.

### POLITICS

## Minister: restrictions just start of reforms

Alberta's justice minister says a bill to ban corporate and union donations to political parties is just the start of democratic reform.

Kathleen Ganley said Tuesday that a new, all-party legislature committee will be looking at other issues related to campaign financing, including donation limits and whether to extend a similar ban to municipal politics.

"Bill 1 is the beginning of our

government's work to renew democracy in Alberta," Ganley told reporters.

Bill 1, An Act to Renew Democracy in Alberta, bans corporate and union donations to political parties retroactive to when it was introduced on Tuesday.

Former Progressive Conservative governments have long received the vast majority of corporate donations, totalling into the millions of dollars.

Opponents said it not only skewed the playing field but suggested that decisions by the province were for sale to the highest bidder.

The NDP benefited as well, from unions. In 2014, the NDP received almost \$85,000 in union donations, more than 10 per cent of all fundraising.

Ganley said the committee, with nine government members and eight opposition members, will look at the larger re-

form issues including donation limits. Right now, individuals can contribute up to \$15,000 to a party a year, double that in election years.

PC Leader Ric McIver said his nine-member caucus will not support the legislation.

He said the bill will just drive corporations to find other ways to funnel money to political parties, and he said the bill favours funding to the NDP.

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### IN BRIEF

#### Edmonton police investigating body

Police in Edmonton are investigating the death of a woman whose body was found bound and left in a shopping cart in an alley.

Officers made the discovery when they responded

to a report early Tuesday. Emergency responders were called to the scene and pronounced the woman dead. Police say they haven't finished notifying the woman's family. An autopsy is scheduled for Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



## EVENTS

# Fifty-day festival to bring 'Calgary to the music'

**Lucie Edwardson**  
For Metro | Calgary

After successfully playing live music for 50 days straight last summer, in what he dubbed 50 Days YYC, entrepreneur and local artist Ruben Young is taking the second instalment to the next level.

Young is turning 50 Days YYC into a 50-day-long music festival that will showcase local talent and businesses.

"What we wanted to do with 50 Days YYC is create a vehicle that brings Calgary to the music, and music to Calgarians," he said.

"We are putting more than just an artist on a stage. We're creating a unique experience for social people in our city to get stoked about."

Young said the goal of 50 Days isn't to cure a diseased music scene but to bring an audience to the artists.

"More often than not, they end up performing for their friends and family who already support them," he explained.



**Ruben Young, founder and organizer of 50 Days YYC, has turned his solo project into the city's newest and longest music festival.** LUCIE EDWARDSON/FOR METRO

Beni Johnson, who runs the monthly hip-hop showcase at Commonwealth Bar 10@10, said 50 Days offers artists an opportunity to engage with their community.

"What's great about 50 Days is it brings smaller musical

communities like the hip-hop community and unites them. It gives them a chance for exposure to other groups and people in the city," he said.

The festival will begin August 1 and releases its artist roster the week of June 22.

# Reconciliation on its way, says chief

## ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

**'A lot' remains to be done, but city's efforts 'outstanding'**

**Robson Fletcher**  
Metro | Calgary

Calgary has taken some positive steps toward reconciliation with aboriginal people in the wake of the residential-schools system, says the chief of the Siksika Nation, but many more lie ahead on the path to true healing.

"There's a lot that needs to be done," Chief Vincent Yellow Old Woman said Tuesday, prior to a reconciliation event hosted by the Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee.

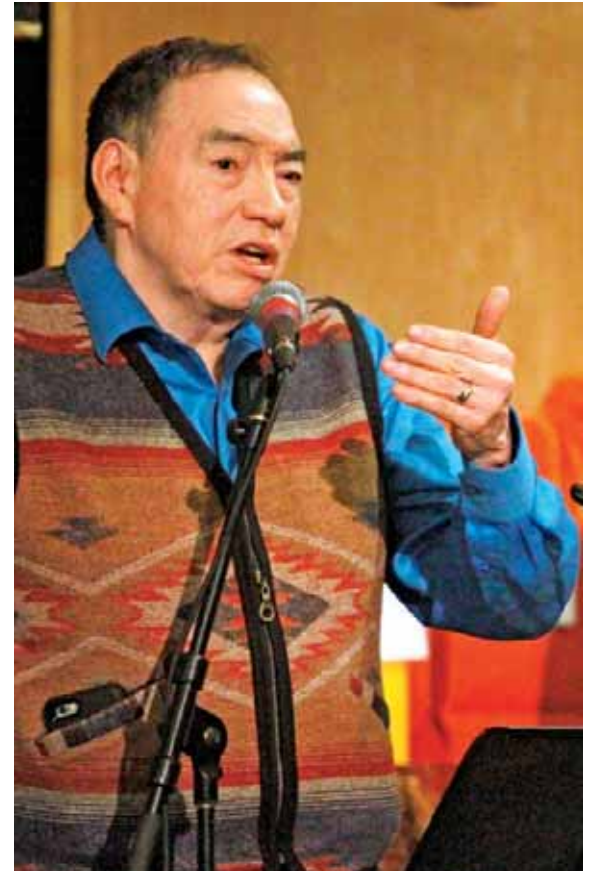
The chief, himself a survivor of residential schools, said many Canadians still need to be educated about the extent of the government's efforts in the 20th century to remove aboriginal children from their families and erase aboriginal culture.

"There are those in society that have no clue whatsoever what took place," he said.

Events like Tuesday's gathering — which saw aboriginal and non-aboriginal people come together to hear the stories of residential-school survivors — are helpful, he added.

"I think Calgary's doing an outstanding job under the leadership of the mayor," Yellow Old Woman said. "I admire his wisdom, his leadership. I feel he's doing what he can."

The chief said he also supports a proposal to change the moniker of Calgary's Langevin Bridge, which was named after a father of confederation who



**Siksika Chief Vincent Yellow Old Woman speaks during the event Tuesday about the need for healing.** ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

also helped pave the way for the residential-school system.

"How would you feel if I went and abused all of your kids, and then they named a bridge after me?" he said. "That's not right."

Nikkole Heavy Shields, who helped host Tuesday's event, said the gathering was a chance to spur further efforts at reconciliation in the future. "This is a call to action," she said.

66

**How would you feel if I ... abused all of your kids, and then they named a bridge after me?**

Chief Vincent Yellow Old Woman



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## IN BRIEF

## Neil Young postpones anti-oilsands concert

Neil Young has postponed a planned benefit concert in Edmonton.

A spokeswoman for the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation says the delay is due to internal management issues. No new date has been set.

The show was to be one of several to benefit the northern Alberta band, which lives in the oilsands region and has mounted court challenges to development approvals.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

# Man allegedly lied to take nude shots

An Edmonton man is facing child-exploitation charges for allegedly taking nude photos of a 16-year-old girl.

Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT) say two separate investigations resulted in the arrest of 36-year-old William Swanson.

It's alleged he posed as a professional photographer to befriend and then take nude photos of the girl.

It's also alleged he shared the images over the Internet

from a work camp in Fort McMurray.

Swanson has been in custody since his arrest on May 26.

He is scheduled to appear in court on June 17 on charges of making and possessing child pornography and making sexually explicit material available to a child.

Members of Alberta Sheriffs, Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat police forces and RCMP work in ALERT.

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## IMPAIRED DRIVING

## Tories introduce tougher DUI laws

Two years after they first made the commitment, the Conservatives are finally introducing a renewed crackdown on drunk drivers — but the new measures aren't about to become law any time soon.

As one of his final acts as justice minister, Peter MacKay on Tuesday introduced the Dangerous and Impaired Driving Act, a bill that reforms transportation-related offences including those relating to impaired driving.

"We are sending a strong signal to those who choose to drive impaired that this behaviour is not only unacceptable, but is also creating a serious risk to public safety and putting everyone on the road at risk," MacKay said.

The government says the many changes to the Criminal Code over the years to address the problem of impaired driving have also made the law more complex, making investigation, prosecution and sentencing more difficult.

So the new bill proposes to untangle that knot, laying out three impaired driving offences and four other transportation-related offences, including failing to stop after a collision and

### THE BILL

Once passed, the bill would also increase maximum penalties for impaired driving and introduce new mandatory jail time instead of fines for some offences.

driving while prohibited.

The House of Commons is set to break for the summer within days and Parliament will soon be dissolved for the upcoming election, meaning the proposals are unlikely to become law until the next government is formed.

"We hope that the next government — if it's the same, great; whoever it is — will continue to endorse this because we are talking public safety and that's the bottom line," said Markita Kaulius, whose daughter was killed by a drunk driver in 2011.

Kaulius went on to start an advocacy organization that has been lobbying the government for four years for tougher penalties. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Trudeau vows he'll 'restore democracy'

## ELECTION

## Liberal leader wants to change the way Canadians vote

Justin Trudeau wants this fall's vote to be the last federal election conducted under the first-past-the-post electoral system.

And, if the Liberal leader becomes prime minister, it may also be the last election in which Canadians can choose not to vote, as well as the last in which the only way to vote is by marking an X on a paper ballot.

Changing the way Canadians vote is just one element of a sweeping, 32-point plan to "restore democracy in Canada" that Trudeau announced Monday.

Some of the measures have been previously announced, such as strengthening access-to-information laws; empowering backbench MPs by allowing more free votes and beefing up legislative



Liberal Party Leader Justin Trudeau in Ottawa on Tuesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

oversight by Commons committees; and ending partisanship in the scandal-plagued Senate.

Others are new or build upon previous commitments.

Perhaps the most ambitious promise, however, is Trudeau's vow to do away with first-past-the-post (FPTP) in time for the next election.

The current system badly distorts voters' choices, allowing a party to win the majority of seats in the House of Commons with less than 40 per cent of the vote, and delivering wildly different seat counts to parties that win similar shares.

Trudeau promised he'd introduce electoral reform legislation

within 18 months of forming government. The legislation would be based on the recommendations of a special, all-party parliamentary committee mandated to study alternatives to first-past-the-post, including ranked ballots and proportional representation. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# The Donald seeks Republican nod to become The President

## U.S. ELECTION

### Real-estate mogul vows to bring American dream back

Donald Trump might never be president of the United States — at least not judging by the mockery from Democrats and mournful tweets from some Republicans following his campaign launch Tuesday.

But he just might have succeeded in carving out a place in American political history, with one of the more unusual announcement speeches of any candidate.

The bombastic billionaire arrived onstage by escalator, descending to the tune of Rocking In The Free World. His choice of theme music, a song about American decline sung by a Canadian liberal, Neil Young, was hardly the day's biggest surprise.

After toying for years with the idea of a presidential run, the real-estate mogul announced his plan to seek the Republican nomination.

He proceeded to speak without notes for nearly an hour, during which he:

#### Insulted Mexicans:

Trump promised to build a wall along the border and force Mexico to pay for it. "They are not our friend, believe me. They are killing us economically. The U.S. has become a dumping ground for everybody else's problems. When Mexico sends its people, they are not sending their best... They are bringing



Supporters of real-estate developer Donald Trump, below, line the lobby of Trump Tower in New York Tuesday before his announcement that he will seek the Republican nomination for U.S. president. RICHARD DREW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

**I'll bring back our jobs from China, Japan, Mexico, so many other places. And I'll bring back our money.**

Donald Trump

drugs. They are bringing crime, their rapists, and some I assume are good people."

#### Made bold promises:

"I will be the greatest jobs president that God ever created, I tell you that. I'll bring back our jobs from China, Japan, Mexico,

so many other places. And I'll bring back our money."

Drew sweeping conclusions from his Republican rivals' campaign launches, which he found lacking:

"They didn't know the air conditioner didn't work. They



sweated like dogs. They didn't know the room was too big... How are they gonna beat ISIS?"

#### Plugged his golf courses:

He insulted President Barack Obama for playing so much golf, then pivoted into a sales

pitch: "I have the best courses in the world. So I'd say, if you want... I have one right next to the White House."

#### Called many people stupid:

America's leaders for paying interest on debt; New York State officials who allowed prisoners to escape — all branded with the same dreaded epithet: "How stupid are our leaders?"

#### Compared the Chinese to Super Bowl champion Tom Brady:

"I just sold an apartment for \$15 million to someone from China. Am I supposed to dislike

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Trump said his team of accountants had spent months tabulating his net worth. They finally settled on \$8.7375 billion.

"I'm really rich. And by the way, I'm not even saying that (to) brag. That's the kind of mindset, the kind of thinking, you need for this country... We have the opposite thinking: We have losers."

them?... I love China. But their leaders are much smarter than our leaders. It's like having Tom Brady and the New England Patriots playing a high-school football team."

#### Issued tariff threats:

One of the things he'd do, he said, is call Ford's president and say: "Congrats on building the new plant in Mexico... Lemme give you the bad news."

The bad news? A 35 per cent tax on every part made in Mexico, until Ford moves a plant to the U.S.

#### Teased Secretary of State John Kerry for breaking his leg while bicycling:

Trump said he'd be busy preventing Iran from getting a nuclear weapon instead of cycling.

His speech carried several dire comparisons of the U.S. to a "Third World country" because of crumbling infrastructure. But he concluded on a positive note: "Sadly, the American dream is dead. But if I get elected president, I will bring it back — bigger, and better and stronger." THE CANADIAN PRESS

## GEORGIA

### Lions, tigers found dead after flood

All of the lions and tigers that were missing after severe flooding swamped Tbilisi's zoo have been found dead. One jaguar remained unaccounted for, but zoo staff said they have little hope that it survived.

The discovery of the last of the missing lions and tigers on Tuesday as the waters receded eased fears in the capital of Georgia, an ex-Soviet republic, that some of the big cats were still wandering the hills of the city.

The human death toll rose to 19 on Tuesday as workers continued to comb the flood-

damaged areas. Six people were still missing, the state security council said in a statement.

An intense downpour that began late Saturday turned a stream that runs through the city into a raging torrent that destroyed houses and tore up roads. About 40 families lost their homes.

Zoo spokeswoman Mziya Sharashidze said eight lions, all seven of the zoo's tigers and at least two of its three jaguars were killed. Only two of the zoo's 14 bears survived, she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## IN BRIEF

### Putin issues reminder of Russia's military might

Russia's military this year will receive over 40 new intercontinental ballistic missiles capable of piercing any missile defences, President Vladimir Putin said Tuesday at an arms show in Alabino, just west of Moscow.

Russia's relations with the West have plunged to their lowest point since Cold War times, over Moscow's annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula and support for a pro-Russia separatist insurgency in eastern Ukraine.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## TERRORISM

### Powerful Yemeni Al-Qaida leader killed in U.S. airstrike

A U.S. airstrike has killed Al-Qaida's No. 2 leader, who commanded its powerful Yemeni affiliate, dealing the global network its biggest blow since the killing of Osama bin Laden and eliminating a charismatic leader at a time when it is vying with the Islamic State group for the mantle of global jihad.

Nasir al-Wahishi is the latest in a series of senior figures from al-Qaida's Yemen branch eliminated by U.S. drone strikes the past five months, including its top ideologue and a senior military commander.

The U.S. has intensified its campaign, trying to push back the group as it has captured new territory in Yemen by taking advantage of the southern Arabian nation's chronic chaos.

The U.S. activity against al-Qaida is also not limited to Yemen. Over the weekend, a U.S. airstrike in Libya targeted an al-Qaida-linked militant commander, Mokhtar Belmokhtar, who led a 2013 attack on an Algerian gas complex that killed 35 hostages including several Americans.

U.S. officials are still trying to confirm whether he was

killed in the raid.

Al-Wahishi was a former aide to bin Laden who, after the al-Qaida affiliate in Saudi Arabia was crushed in the mid-2000s, rebuilt it in his homeland Yemen and turned it into the terror network's most dangerous branch. The U.S. put a bounty of up to \$10 million on al-Wahishi.

The Yemeni branch, known as al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, claimed responsibility for January's attack on the French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo that killed 12 people.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# Balcony collapse kills students

## CALIFORNIA

### Many of the victims were visiting U.S. from Ireland

A 21st-birthday party thrown by a group of visiting Irish college students turned tragic early Tuesday when the fourth-floor balcony they were crowded on collapsed with a sharp crack, spilling 13 people about 50 feet onto the pavement. Six people were killed and seven seriously injured.

Police and fire and building officials were working to figure out why the roughly five-by-10-foot concrete-floor balcony broke loose from the side of the stucco apartment building, situated a couple of blocks from the campus of the University of California, Berkeley.

High school student Jason Biswas' family nearby was awakened by the noise.

"They thought there was an earthquake, but then we looked out the window and saw seven or eight people on the ground," the 16-year-old said. "There were piles of blood everywhere."

Five of the dead were 21-year-olds from Ireland who were in the country on so-called J-1 visas that enable young people to work and travel in the U.S. over the summer, while the sixth victim was from California, authorities said.

The news brought an outpouring of grief in Ireland, from the prime minister on down.



A woman cries as she leaves flowers at the scene of a balcony collapse at an apartment building near UC Berkeley on Tuesday in Berkeley, Calif. JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES

Police had gotten a complaint about a loud party in the apartment about an hour before the accident but had not yet arrived when the balcony gave way just after 12:30 a.m., spokesman Byron White said. Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny said police told him 13 people were on the balcony.

"I just heard a bang and a lot of shouting," said Dan Sul-

livan, a 21-year-old student from Ireland who was asleep in the five-storey building. Mark Neville, another Irish student in the building, said: "I walked out and I saw rubble on the street and a bunch of Irish students crying."

Berkeley police Chief Michael Neeham said the response to the noise complaint had been given a lower priority

after police received a call of shots fired elsewhere. Police arrived to find the metal-rail balcony had fallen off the side of the building and landed on the third-floor balcony beneath it.

Berkeley officials said the building code would have required the balcony to hold 60 pounds per square foot, which in this case would work out to somewhere around 3,000

pounds — more than 13 normal-size people.

Investigators will probably look first at whether the balcony was built to code and whether rain or other weather weakened it, said Kevin Moore, a San Francisco engineer and chairman of the structural standards committee of the Structural Engineers Association of California. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## NEW YORK

### Weather disrupts search for convicts

Search teams hindered by cool, rainy weather combed through woods in far northern New York for an 11th day trying to track down two escaped murderers as one official raised doubts Tuesday that they relied solely on a now-jailed prison worker to help them get away after their breakout.

More than 800 law enforcement officers who are searching for David Sweat and Richard Matt shifted their focus eastward along Route 374 leading from the village of Dannemora, home of Clinton Correctional Facility.

Clinton County Sheriff David Favro said rain has been washing away any scent search dogs might find and interfering with thermal imaging devices being used to detect body heat.

Meanwhile, the woman charged with helping the killers flee by providing them with hacksaw blades, chisels and other tools was visited in jail Tuesday by her husband.

Prosecutors say Joyce Mitchell, a prison tailoring shop instructor who befriended the inmates, had agreed to be the getaway driver but backed out because she still loved her husband and felt guilty for participating.

Favro said Tuesday that while he has "no concrete information," he doesn't believe the escapees would have counted only on Mitchell for the ultimate success of their escape plan.

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Ensaf Haidar, wife of Raif Badawi, stands next to a poster of a book of articles written by the imprisoned Saudi blogger, Tuesday in Montreal. THE CANADIAN PRESS/PAUL CHIASSON

## Jailed Saudi blogger able to release book

1,000 LASHES

**His wife Ensaf transcribed preface during phone calls**

The wife of jailed Saudi blogger Raif Badawi says he has not lost his wit or desire to express himself through prose, even as he languishes in prison in poor health and struggles with low morale.

During one of Ensaf Haidar's twice-weekly phone calls with her husband, Badawi dictated an essay that became the preface to his new book, released in Quebec on Tuesday.

The 62-page, French-language book is a collection of 14 salvaged blog posts published between 2010 and 2012 that weren't destroyed by authorities.

The book is titled 1,000 Coups De Fouet, which translates to 1,000 lashes in English.

Those posts resulted in Badawi being sentenced to 10 years in

prison and 1,000 lashes for insulting the country's clerics.

Badawi's detention and sentence have stirred up worldwide condemnation and Quebec's immigration minister recently announced the province would accelerate immigration procedures for him.

While he is not a Canadian citizen, Haidar and his children fled Saudi Arabia in 2012 and settled in Sherbrooke, Que., in 2013.

Haidar took the microphone Monday and addressed those attending the launch in French — which she's learning — thanking Amnesty International, the human rights organization that has been working to raise awareness about her husband's plight.

The Saudi Supreme Court recently upheld a lower court ruling that sentenced Badawi.

However, after a first session of 50 lashes in January, all others were postponed, apparently due to health concerns and undisclosed reasons.

Amnesty International and Haidar fear his punishment will resume in the near future.

"His health is not good and his morale is not good, but that's normal, he's been in prison for three years already," she said.

Haidar added it's difficult for her young children to grasp their jailed father is on the other end of the line.

"They need to play with him and touch him. Talk to him. To laugh and smile with him," she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TEXTS

## Badawi tells of time in prison

The book titled "1,000 coups de fouet," which translates to 1,000 lashes in English, published in Quebec by Montreal-based Edito, was also released earlier this year in Germany.

Profits will be split between the publisher and Badawi's family. Badawi's texts are simple, witty and sarcastic: they discuss how Saudi citizens can no longer "play the ostrich," ignoring how the country refuses to respect religious minorities.

His writing explores gender equality and how religious dogma can stifle innovation and creativity.

He discusses how citizens have the right to "believe and to reflect, to love or to hate, to be liberal or Islamist."

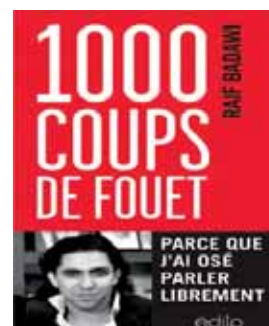
Badawi writes of the terrifying, excrement-laced bathroom he shares with other inmates in prison and its dirty, rusty walls covered in hundreds of graffiti markings.

"My eyes fall on the phrase: Secularism is the solution," he writes. "Stupefied, I rub my eyes to make sure I am reading correctly."

He continues discussing how in his new life in prison, the bathroom "plays a large role in the formulation of men's thoughts."

As soon as I sit on the toilet bowl, ideas start to jostle around in my head.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Raif Badawi's French-language book. CONTRIBUTED

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“His health is not good and his morale is not good, but that's normal, he's been in prison for three years already.”

Raif Badawi's wife Ensaf Haidar



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# More than 1 in 3 families at debt limit

**POLL**  
**Homeowners would face hard times with a 10% increase**

Nearly half of Canadian homeowners are taking steps to cut their mortgage debt, but many would be in trouble if their monthly payments grew even slightly, a survey by Manulife Bank of Canada suggests.

Manulife said 18 per cent of homeowners made extra lump-sum payments towards their mortgages in the past year, while 17 per cent increased their regular payments. Another five per cent of respondents did both.

In total, 40 per cent of the homeowners polled made extra mortgage payments during the past year, while 60 per cent did not. The average amount was \$6,300.

However, the survey found more than a third of homeowners would face financial hardship if their mortgage payments increased by just 10 per cent.

"Having your payments go up 10 per cent sounds like a lot, but if you have a \$200,000 mortgage and interest rates go up one per cent, that's a 10 per cent increase in your mortgage payments," Lunney said. "So there's not much room here for those people."

Another 15 per cent of homeowners said they couldn't handle any increases to their mortgage.

Manulife polled 2,372 Canadian homeowners in all provinces from Feb. 10 to 27. Respondents were all aged 20 to 59 and had a minimum household income of \$50,000.

The polling industry's professional body, the Marketing Research and Intelligence Association, said online surveys cannot be assigned a margin of error. THE CANADIAN PRESS



**PARIS BOEING STRIKES BIG DEAL AT AIR SHOW** Korean Air CEO Cho Yang-Ho and Boeing Commercial Airplanes president and CEO Ray Conner pose at the International Paris Airshow at Le Bourget. Boeing landed the biggest order of the show so far with a deal for 100 of its 737s yesterday. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

### IN BRIEF

**Activists depart from talks over use of facial recognition software**

Retailers have the ability to scan your face digitally, or even recognize you as a prior shoplifter. But should they use it? Should they need your permission first? Privacy advocates announced Tuesday they have walked away from a government-run effort with industry intended to answer these questions. The nine major privacy groups said they had hit a dead end and that "people deserve more protection than they are likely to get in this forum." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### market minute

**DOLLAR** 81.22¢ (+0.03¢)

**TSX** 14,753.05 (-3)

**OIL** \$59.97 US (+0.45¢)

**GOLD** \$1,180.90 US (-\$4.90)

**NATURAL GAS:** \$2.894 US (-0.5¢)

**DOW JONES:** 17,904.48 (+113.31)

TECHNOLOGY

Evolution of drone designs makes jobs, and lives, easier

Quickly evolving drones are creating new options for industries and businesses across Canada as developers promise to make their operations safer, cheaper and more accurate.

Take the roofing industry: Michael H. Cohen, president of Toronto-based drone operator Industrial SkyWorks, says that in the past, inspecting roofs for heat loss meant climbing up on the roof to do it manually.

"The industry had for 30 years been walking roofs with handheld thermographic cameras at night, an incredibly dangerous

and inefficient activity," he said in an interview.

Now, an operator can stand in a parking lot as the drone combs a building's roof in a grid pattern.

Ian Glenn, CEO of drone manufacturer ING Robotic Aviation, says that a similar transformation is playing out among big infrastructure inspections that involve power lines, flare stacks and wind mills — anywhere that workers previously had to actually climb up the equipment to look at it.

"In everything we do, we reduce the cost, the risk, and the

footprint of what we do," said Glenn.

The potential of drones caught Wade Ewen's attention in 2013. As a geographic information systems specialist at Cenovus Energy, he manages the company's air photos, terrain mapping and other location data.

"I just saw that it could augment what we were currently doing and provide our data a bit faster, a bit safer, and (at a) better resolution than we'd normally get."

He said Cenovus already has three drones, but plans to buy more so that all their major operations have one on site.

Calgary-based 4Front Robotics is working to create more uses for drones by developing ones that can operate in confined spaces. Company CEO Alex Ramirez-Serrano said that

there's been much less progress on that front.

"It's extremely hard," he said. "You don't have GPS, you need to sense and avoid, you need to recognize the environment."

The company's prototypes are being tested on inspecting storage tanks in oil and gas, flying in mines for rescue operations and zooming through the forest to identify which trees to cut.

So far, battery life has been a limitation for drones, but Cohen said that's improving fast. He remembers when battery life was all of eight minutes, but now some companies have batteries that last upwards of 90 minutes.

"It's said in the drone world we're doubling Moore's principal, so rather than 18 months to double power, we're somewhere around nine months," said Cohen. THE CANADIAN PRESS



**While drone technology is quickly advancing, battery power remains to be an issue. Those stronger batteries are also needed to power all the new sensors and equipment being crammed onto the drones.** GETTY IMAGES

**It's extremely hard. You don't have GPS, you need to sense and avoid, you need to recognize your environment.**

4Front Robotics CEO Alex Ramirez-Serrano

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## Is home-schooling a good idea?

### YES: Home-schoolers are high achievers

Mom and dad make great teachers — and they're choosing to fill that role more than ever. A Fraser Institute study released Tuesday showed home-schooling grew 29 per cent in Canada from 2007 to 2012, while public school enrollment fell 2.5 per cent. The authors cited research suggesting home-schooled children score higher on academic tests, if they follow a structured program. The institute, which is conservative and favours parental choice, also pointed out that home-schooling saves governments \$256 million each year.

### NO: School is the best place to learn social skills

Many parents worry home-schooled kids miss out on the intangible benefits of going to school that are hard to capture in studies, such as learning how to make friends. Also, the evidence of home-schooling's academic benefits is scant — one Canadian study the Fraser Institute cites had only 74 participants. Another, though its sample size was in the thousands, involved home-schooling families who chose to participate and was authored by the president of the National Home Education Research Institute.

## Science and society show gender is fluid

**THE SCIENCE**

**Stephanie Orford**



Until very recently, we thought about gender the way we think about signs on washroom doors. There are two options: male and female.

But at least since endocrinologist Harry Benjamin first published research about his transgender patients in the 1960s, scientists have observed that people have a range of gender identities.

"The notion ... that there are only two sexes has actually been frequently overturned in science," says Elizabeth Saewyc, a professor of nursing and adolescent medicine at UBC who leads the Stigma and Resilience Among Vulnerable Youth Centre at UBC. "There's a bit more of a continuum."

Now Canadians' awareness of gender variation is finally catching up with the science. As discussions about gender identity hit the mainstream, we need to make sure sensitivity and respect are always part of the conversation.

Many Canadians had a gender epiphany earlier this month when Caitlyn Jenner, formerly Bruce Jenner, pushed transgender issues into the mainstream with her Vanity Fair cover. Last week pop star Miley Cyrus revealed her fluid gender identity in an interview with Paper Magazine.

The conversation is rippling across the politics and policy worlds, too. An Ontario judge has ruled that a transgender child whose parents were fighting over her identity should be allowed to discover that identity for herself (she identifies as female).

On June 1, the Alberta Bill of Rights was amended

to include the rights of Albertans to determine their own gender identity and express it as they please.

As many as one in 100 people have gender identities that are different from their biological sex at birth.

Many biological causes of transgender identity have been suggested, but none have been proven definitively. It's a highly complicated interplay of genes and environment, and many aspects are still unknown.

Scientists do know gender identity is deeply ingrained early in life, likely before birth, says Saewyc.

As we find out more and grapple with the rights, social norms and expectations around the many variations of gender identity, Canadians need to accept and embrace that variations — much like variations in sexual orientation — are natural, normal and can't be changed.

**Many biological causes of transgender identity have been suggested, but none proven definitively. It's a highly complicated interplay of genes and environment.**

"It's really important to recognize and celebrate the diversity of human gender and sex," says Saewyc. "For far too long we have, as societies across the world, discriminated and stigmatized against people who are outside the stereotypical binary."

**Stephanie Orford** is a Vancouver-based writer. The Science appears every other Wednesday.

## ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

### metroview

## Real change, not just election reform, would inspire youth

You know what's great?

Two of the big three political parties are promising electoral reform, in a bid to combat voter apathy.

It's already part of the NDP's election platform. Yesterday, the Liberals said they'll replace our first-past-the-post system with a process more in line with the popular vote.

It's worth a try, given the Conservatives' majority is based on the support of just one-quarter of eligible voters (39 per cent of ballots cast).

But you know what would be better? A party that bothered to speak to young people.

They — we — are at the heart of the problem. Youth turnout has been nosediving since the 80s, dragging the overall rate with it. Only 38.8 per cent of people 18 to 24 voted in the last election (compared to 61.1 per cent overall). And, crucially, we're not becoming voters as we age.

This isn't a fringe issue for Canadians. Our democracy is suffering. Politicians can get what they want no matter how few of us vote. We can't say the same.

And it's not a problem of engagement. As UBC politics professor Max Cameron told me, "Young people have an enormous vocation for public service and a great interest in public affairs, but very few express that in terms of partisan politics."

That's because partisan politics ignores us.

Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau cares so deeply about the middle class, it's all he seems to talk about. And just yesterday NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair gave his own speech claiming dedication to the middle class. Whoever they may imagine belongs to this class, it's not young people.

Politicians flick at the youth unemployment rate and believe that — just by acknowledging it's abysmal — we trust them to fix it. We don't. Same goes for climate change. Any plans to dramatically reduce tuition fees, by chance? Or rent costs?

No, the political parties aren't all the same, but they seem more like soda brands fighting for market share than alternate visions of how to organize society, as Cameron told me. Will the next government shift us away from oil production or close the wage gap, end the war on drugs or even dramatically shrink the public service?

As much as I scorn the word disruptive, I could use some disruptive politics — say, the opportunity to elect someone other than a white man, seeing as, you know, we're not all white men.

So, thanks for the election reforms, guys. But I'll be shocked if they inspire young Canadians who don't vote and may never.

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# Unshaven armpits all the rage

## PERSONAL GROOMING

## Women take on mainstream beauty standards with natural look

On social media and red carpets, from New York to China, hairy underarms are having a mainstream moment.

Women are proudly showing off their growth on Instagram and YouTube, and it's not just Miley Cyrus anymore. Jemima Kirke of *Girls* flashed her fair-colored au naturel look — earning some cringes — at the June 1 CFDA awards, one of the top fashion events of the year.

On Sina Weibo, a popular microblogging site in China, the women's rights activist known as Xiao Meili held an Armpit Hair Competition, complete with prizes that included condoms and a vibrator, to protest societal pressure on women to shave under there.

Her effort earned more than 1.7 million hits.

"In the past two decades, there have been a lot of commercials and advertising for hair removal cream and laser removal of hair that have talked about women needing to shave their under-

arm hair and that the armpit area should be clean," said the 25-year-old Xiao, whose real name is Xiao Yue.

"My mother's generation didn't care about that, but now it has become a headache for women in the summer as they have to consider whether to shave that area or not," she said.

Love it or hate it, not shaving under the arms has morphed into a call to action for other women as well who are looking to be free

of the constraint or choose for themselves without ridicule.

Mom Katherine Anne True, a registered nurse in Raynham, Mass., recently showed off

her underarm growth on Instagram, though she has not joined others there who sport hair they've dyed blue and other festive colours.

"I started it a few months ago before I knew it was a trend," said True, 30.

At first, it was just for fun. Then the extra hair was met by cringes from her five-year-old

daughter and nine-year-old niece.

"When the girls told me I '(had) to shave those' and were grossed out it was kind of startling that these gender stereotypes were already so ingrained at these ages," True said. "I do it, or rather don't do it, for me but also as a reminder to my daughter that it's up to the individual what we decide to do with our bodies."

Her daughter is now unfazed. Her niece still tells her to shave.

## BODY HAIR CHOICES

### Expression of identity is the key

Maria Del Russo, a beauty editor for the millennial-focused fashion, style and beauty site Refinery29, said expression of identity is key in the mix. If there's any statement to be made, she said, it's this: "What one woman decides to do with her body hair is her business, and hers alone. For plenty of women, it's just hair."

Music Awards to match the same colour in wigs for her head and an over-the-clothes crotch piece. Julia Roberts sported

the grown-out look in 1999 at the London premiere of *Notting Hill*.

In parts of Europe and elsewhere around the world, it's never been about shorn. And until the rise of razors marketed specifically to women, along with sleeveless fashion at the turn of the 20th century, hair was far more there in North America, crossing over in more recent decades from a music festival mother ideal of femininity.

Photographer Ben Hopper in London has challenged the shorn mainstream in an online photo project he calls *Natural Beauty*. His collection of images includes Madonna and Roberts in full growth, along with models and everyday women through the decades.

There's a postcard from around 1920 portraying a young woman with crimped hair in a frilly dress provocatively flaunting bushy underarms. With lady marketing of razors, he explained, hair-free pits soon became the norm.

Some celebrities have been sporting armpit hair forever. Lady Gaga used little shaggy turquoise wigs under her arms in 2011 while performing at the Much



Jemima Kirke arrives at the 2015 CFDA Fashion Awards. EVAN AGOSTINI/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Xiao said in China, pressure to shave has come from the West.

"Women's underarm shaving in China only has about 20 years of history and that is because of advertising, which has changed people's minds," she said.

Xiao is known for eye-catching protests, and three of her contest participants were among five women's rights activists whose detentions in March received worldwide attention. In 2013, she shaved her head to protest the way women have to get higher scores than men to be admitted to some university courses.

"To shave or not is up to the woman," she said. "The purpose of this contest is not to call on people not to shave their underarm hair. It's to not criticize those who don't."

Leila Noelliste, creator and editor of the hair site *BlackGirlLongHair*, posted a display of women showing off their growth and sees no downside.

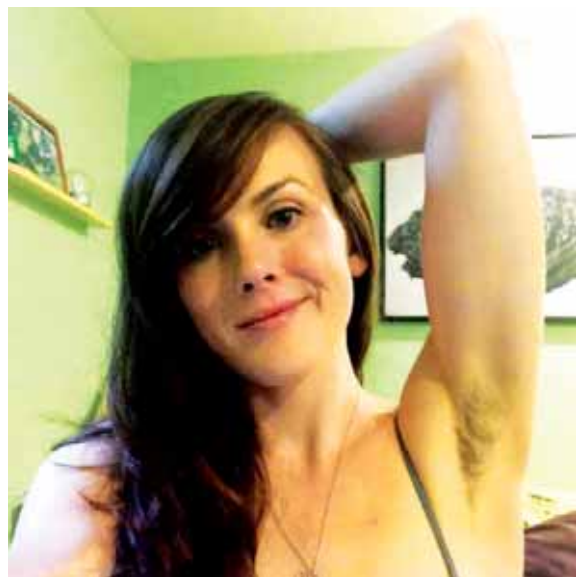
"Much of what women consider beautiful is based on standards set by men, so it's refreshing to witness a woman-centred beauty movement," she said.

Angelique Serrano, beauty dir-

ector for *InStyle* magazine, said there's clearly no one right way to approach the pits, on feminist, beauty or hygiene grounds. The magazine offered a tutorial on its website late last year on how to achieve neon Rainbow Brite tints with bleach and Manic Panic dye after the hashtag #dyedpits popped up on Twitter and Instagram.

"With the help of social media, the conversation is reaching a new level," she said. "People are sharing their personal choices in a public way."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Katherine Anne True at her home. "I started it a few months ago before I knew it was a trend." At first, it was just for fun. Then the extra hair was met by cringes from her five-year-old daughter and nine-year-old niece. KATHERINE ANNE TRUE VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# Running in heels with dinosaurs



Bryce Dallas Howard stars as operations manager Claire in *Jurassic World*. CONTRIBUTED

## JURASSIC WORLD

### Bryce Dallas Howard talks ankle-specific exercises



Ned Ehrbar  
Metro | Life

Actors pick up all sorts of new skills when working on big movies, but one area of expertise Bryce Dallas Howard never expected to master on the job is ankle health. But when your character spends the entire movie in a set of rather nice-looking high heels and you're being chased by killer dinosaurs, these things become important.

#### What are your memories from seeing the first film?

It's one of those experiences where I was so impressionable, and it was just such a vivid experience. I left remembering every single second of it. It was just a crazy-good movie. That film is genius. So yeah, I remember everything. I was making jokes with Chris before we started that I needed to bring back the high-waisted khaki shorts that Laura Dern made popular with *Jurassic Park*.

Your running in heels in this

was very impressive.

I was obsessive with making sure that I didn't get injured. At this point, I know so much about the fitness of ankles. (laughs) It's completely disproportionate with overall fitness, which is really funny because I remember about half-way through I thought to myself, 'Man, my ankles are so strong. Should I be working out other parts of my body for a major motion picture? Hmm. It's all about the ankles. I loved that we kind of landed in this place where it was right for the character to have her heels on the whole time.'



**I loved that we kind of landed in this place where it was right for the character to have her heels on the whole time.**

Bryce Dallas Howard

#### How do you pick up ankle-specific exercises?

I was really lucky because my driver turned out to be a UFC winner, this guy Pete Williams — just an incredible athlete. And he was the one who actually taught me all these balance and ankle exercises, because in mixed martial arts

you have to really take care of your feet and you have to be able to balance.

**Your character gets a great arc to play over this, which sadly isn't too common for big action movies.**

One of the things Colin always said on set was that this movie has to work without the dinosaurs, and that was something that was always top of mind. I met him in March of 2013 over Skype. He told me so much of the story — I couldn't even believe it when it was happening, like I'm not even cast in this movie yet and he's telling me so much of it, I can't believe he trusts me — and then a month later he called me and said, "I'm at the top of a mountain in Hawaii, I was thinking about you. We've all talked about you, Bryce, and when we Skyped together you felt like family. We'd like to invite you into the *Jurassic World* family." I mean, I said yes on the spot. But there was no script until September. He described this character to me who really goes on this journey. At first she's incredibly unlikable and by the end of the film she's heroic, and I just kept questioning whether that was even possible.

**Nice work if you can get it.**

And then! And then Chris Pratt gets cast. Could it get any better?

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**Chef Julian Clauss-Ehlers' Roasted Beets and Goat Cheese.**  
CONTRIBUTED

# A fresh start to the summer beet wave

## ROOT FOR IT

### Beets are this season's star ingredient

Summer is more or less here, depending on the week. And as great as it's been to change from soups and roasts to lighter fare, most of us need something more than a bowl of lettuce to get by. Spring brought with it a whole new collage of root vegetables, especially beets, that make for an easy transition.

At the new Trattoria Bianca restaurant near Penn Station in New York City, executive chef Julian Clauss-Ehlers is serving a roasted beet and goat

cheese dish that just bursts with freshness. "The creamy texture of the goat cheese complements the earthy flavours of the beets — it's a classic combination," he tells us.

Beets can be a hard sell though, with many home cooks either serving them raw or sugared and pulverized beyond recognition. But Clauss-Ehlers's recipe calls for gently baking the beetroot, which "keeps it tender and helps keep the shape," he explains.

Eat beets now, while they're in season, to get the most flavour out of the heart-health-boosting veggie, which also has potassium for your muscles and antioxidants.

EVA KIS/METRO IN NEW YORK



**The creamy texture of the goat cheese complements the earthy flavours of the beets — it's a classic combination.**

Executive chef Julian Clauss-Ehlers



## ROASTED BEETS WITH GOAT CHEESE

### Ingredients for the beets:

- 3 large red beets, peeled and sliced very thin
- zest and juice of 1 orange
- zest and juice of one lemon
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
- 1/2 cup water
- a sprig of fresh thyme

**Directions:** Carefully mix all ingredients, including the beets. Place everything in a baking dish, cover with aluminum foil and cook in the oven at 300 degrees until the beets are soft, about 1 to 2 hours. Remove from the oven and allow to cool.

### Ingredients for the cheese:

- 8 oz. creamy goat cheese, lightly whipped
- 1 fennel bulb, finely shaved
- 1 pear, cut into fine strips
- 1/4 cup whole pistachios, lightly roasted and chopped
- Handful baby arugula

- Kosher salt
- Fresh ground pepper
- Extra virgin olive oil
- Balsamic vinegar

**Directions:** In a salad bowl add the arugula, fennel, half the goat cheese, half the pistachios and half the pear. Lightly season with salt, pepper, olive oil and vinegar, then lightly toss.

Spread the remaining goat cheese in the middle of four 10-inch plates. Cover the goat cheese with three slices of beet. Divide the mixed salad onto the center of each plate, then lay the sliced beet around the outside.

Top the salad with the remaining pear strips and finish with fronds of fennel, sprinkle the rest of the pistachios around the plate and drizzle the beets with a little olive oil. Serves four.

EVA KIS/METRO NEWS

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# Father's Day grub he won't snub

## QUICK FIX TESTOSTERONE

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## WORD OF MOUTH

**Theresa Albert**

myfriendinfood.com



In a recent survey about gifts for Father's Day, one third of dads polled said they don't want a gift on June 21 — they just want to spend quality time with the family.

Cooking together is one way to do it, so here are the top three foods he needs to satisfy that hormone called testosterone.

These foods contain three key nutrients: zinc, protein and vitamin D to help build the critical hormone. The other items that the research points to for healthy T are a reduction of unhealthy weight and excess sugar as well as an increase in muscle-building activity. But don't pester him on Father's Day; just pass him these great guy foods:



Foods that are high in protein, zinc and vitamin D are sure-fire hits for dad this Father's Day. iStock

### Grass fed beef

High in protein and zinc and low-

er in the saturated fats that can interfere with hormone regulation. Let him build the fire (ok, light the BBQ) and grill it like the hunter he is at heart.

### Shrimp

Containing vitamin D and omega 3 fats, these babies go on the grill right next to the beef and scream man food. Be sure you check the source of such shrimp, though. Marine Stewardship Council Certified (look for the MSC blue logo) is critical.

### Pumpkin seeds

Loaded with Zinc and Magnesium to support his muscles that support his manliness, these green pepitas are easy to sneak in. Use them in place of croutons in your Caesar Salad and call it a good Father's Day.

Theresa is a food and health expert and nutritionist who loves to spread the word on food.



## SUMMER DRINKS

# A Brit's taste of summer

## LIQUID ASSETS

**Peter Rockwell**

@therealwineguy



England's classic aperitifs are making a comeback as home bartenders look for simple-to-make cocktails to help celebrate the coming of the summer season.

You can't get more old-school than Pimm's No. 1 Cup (\$22.59 – \$27.98). Invented by James Pimm in 1823, it's a gin-based spirit made with a secret blend of herbs, fruit juices and liqueurs.

The Brits like it stirred with sparkling lemonade (often replaced with ginger ale in North America) over ice and is typically garnished with a wedge of orange and a sprig of mint.



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# Can't stand the heat? Get out of the kitchen

## PIZZA OVENS

### Old-fashioned 'technology' is the newest cooking trend

Backyard pizza ovens are hot, hot, hot.

Besides being designed to reach "optimal" cooking temperatures upward of 425 to 540 C (800 to 1,000 F), demand has grown "exponentially" since Allan Ham started selling the ovens five years ago.

Propane and gas-fuelled variations on traditional ovens are being carried by major retailers.

Some homebuilders are including this old-fashioned, wood-fired "technology" in high-end, indoor kitchens, says Ham, owner of Outdoor Pizza Ovens in Shanty Bay, Ont., near Barrie.

Although the construction materials are better today, the classic ovens have changed little in centuries — a stone hearth

## + THINGS TO KNOW

- Outdoor pizza ovens must meet CSA/UL certification standards, but care is required for all appliances.

- The recommended fuel is dry hardwood.

- Cast-iron or clay pots and skillets are best in high temperatures.

- Required maintenance is very low because there are no moving parts (except maybe doors) on many pizza ovens.

medium-sized ready-made units start at more than \$2,000 and the largest, most elaborate ones can be closer to \$9,000 (shipping and stands not necessarily included).

Ham sees potential in a Finnish-inspired product that's not much bigger than a suitcase, sits on a picnic table, uses wood pellets as fuel and heats to more than 425 C (800 F) in 10 minutes. It costs \$400.

About half his buyers buy kits to build their own, but even those run from about \$1,200 to \$5,000.

So why invest thousands of dollars to return to a form of cooking that's been around for millennia?

"I think we're all drawn to fire," Ham says. "It's in our DNA. The oven door's open all the time and you see the fire and you see your food cooking right before your eyes. ...

"And ultimately it's the taste of the food" and the wood smoke that gives even familiar dishes a new flavour.

There are two basic kinds of wood-fired outdoor ovens.

In a "black oven," the wood burns on the stone floor. Depending on the oven's size and quality of the wood, it takes 45 to 90 minutes to heat the oven to optimal temperature, Ham says.

Although often called "pizza ovens," black ovens can be used as smokers and to bake, roast and grill. You can set a grate inside and cook over the coals as you would on a barbecue or brush the wood and ash aside and cook directly on the hearth.

It retains the heat so well that an oven heated to optimal temperature in the evening will still have an internal temperature of 180 or 200 C (350 to 400 F) the next morning — enough to bake bread.

In "white ovens," the fire chamber is below the oven. You don't have to clean up wood or ash, but "they don't hold their heat into the next day or you can't grill in that oven. It's just basically an oven or a smoker."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Two wood-fired pizza ovens from Forno Bravo of California are good examples of the growing backyard pizza oven trend.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IMPROMPTU DUET GOES VIRAL

# Sheeran surprises in Edmonton

A budding young pop singer says she got the surprise of her life from one of the world's biggest pop stars while performing at one of the world's largest shopping malls this weekend.

Sydney Bourbeau was halfway through covering Ed Sheeran's Thinking Out Loud at West Edmonton Mall on Sunday when Sheeran himself, who just happened to be at a nearby music store, hopped on stage and helped her.

The 13-year-old Grade 8 student says she initially thought Sheeran, who was wearing thick-rimmed glasses and a plaid shirt, was a stage hand coming

to help her with the microphone stand.

With the crowd roaring its approval and people scrambling for their phones, Sheeran and Sydney shared the mic for a verse and a chorus.

Then, giving Bourbeau a hug, the British megastar was gone as quickly as he arrived, allowing the youngster to finish up.

Sydney was performing at the mall as part of a concert to mark the end of a fundraiser for the Humane Society hosted by her music school Resonate.

She says Sheeran's manager got in touch with her later that day to offer her tickets to Sheeran's show in Ed-

monton that night.

He sent her a message again during the show asking her if she wanted to come backstage, but she didn't see that one until after she was already home.

Still, she says the encounter, which has been posted by a handful of different people on social media, made her pretty popular at school on Monday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



**It was nuts.... Like everyone at school knew and they were all like, 'Oh my goodness, you are famous!'**

13-year-old mall singer  
Sydney Bourbeau



FROM AMERICAN IDOL TO QUEEN

# Lambert's fans span generations

When it comes to spanning the generational divide among music fans, Adam Lambert may have figured it all out: write catchy, hook-laden pop and dance tracks for the kids and sell pricey concert tickets for one of the all-time classic rock bands to their parents.

Fresh off a wildly successful world tour fronting Queen, Lambert is back with his third studio album, The Original High, released Tuesday. Its mix of dance club, pop and emotional ballads couldn't be more different from the music he's been performing for the past two years.

"I have a lot of different

people that listen to my music, and it's important to me to kind of bring as many people together as I can," Lambert, 33, said in a recent interview.

"Now, six years into this part of my career, I think I know myself better. I think I have a stronger idea of my artistic identity and who my fans are."

"Working with Queen was definitely



a balancing act of trying to honour the original recordings as much as I possibly could, while still injecting myself into them," he added. "With this project, it's my name on the project."

Lambert burst onto the scene in 2009, auditioning for American Idol with an a cappella version of Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody. He made it to the finale, finishing second to Kris Allen.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# St. Vincent tames Cara's wild ways

#STCARA

**Busy model is ready to settle down with singer: Source**

Emily  
Laurence  
Metro | New York City

Model Cara Delevingne has famously dated Harry Styles and Michelle Rodriguez, but it's none other than St. Vincent singer Annie Clark who has turned the upcoming Paper Towns actress from party girl to domestic partner.

A source close to the couple allegedly tells Closer magazine that the couple are "so in love" with each other and are living together in easy domestic bliss.

"They both say they feel like they've found 'The One,'" the source says. "When Annie asked Cara to move in together, she said yes immediately. They feel real settled at the moment."

Delevingne is at a pivotal moment in her modelling and acting career.

Fresh from jointly promoting Burberry, the British model teamed up again with Kate Moss to lead Mango's fall/winter 2015 ad campaign.

Called #somethingincommon, the campaign, which will be Moss's third for the fashion brand, was shot in Toronto.

She also stars in the upcom-



Cara Delevingne and Annie Clark, seen here in Cannes last month, are said to be going strong. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

ing Paper Towns, showing off her acting chops and a decent American accent in the film based on the novel by John Green (who also penned The Fault in Our Stars).

But even Delevingne's busy

schedule can't keep her apart from Clark. The source goes on to say that neither one of them hesitates to jump on a plane, even if it's just for a few hours of time together. Team #StCara for the win!

IN BRIEF: PARENTING DECISIONS, PREHISTORIC LOVE TRIANGLE, NO JESSE PINKMAN SPINOFF

IN HOLLYWOOD

Ned  
Ehrbar



## Zoe Saldana keeping her kids under wraps

New mom Zoe Saldana is going to great lengths to respect the privacy of her six-month-old twin sons. That means you won't be seeing any photos with their faces any time soon, so bad news for you, Obsessive Celebrity Kid Watchers. (Wow, that sounds creepy.)

"I just don't want 16 years from now to get, 'You are so disrespectful. You invaded, you exposed me and I



Zoe  
Saldana

wasn't ready.' Even though they're babies and they're under our care, it's still their face," Saldana tells E! News. "Right now they're not in the position to speak for themselves or make a decision. I don't want to make it for them."

She will, however, post Instagram photos of the backs of their heads, apparently. So at least that's something?

## Anna Faris jealous of a dinosaur

Anna Faris is really trying to be an understanding wife to Chris Pratt, but she just doesn't like the way a certain Jurassic World co-star has been looking at him. In the record-breaking blockbuster, Pratt's character has a very close bond with one velociraptor in particular named Blue.

How close of a bond? So close that Faris took to Twitter to voice her concerns. "Honey, what

if I'm the littlest jealous of Blue?" she wrote. "I mean, she's hot, smart and you clearly adore her. Thoughts?"

Pratt himself responded, hoping to put his wife's fears to rest. "She's a little cold-blooded for my taste," he tweeted. "But seriously, nothing happened." That's his story and he's sticking to it.



Anna Faris and  
Chris Pratt

## Aaron Paul punks, saddens Breaking Bad fans

Breaking Bad star Aaron Paul apparently wants to use his fame and social media moxie for evil, not good. He recently teased fans in a Periscope video about a Breaking Bad spin-off chronicling the exploits of his character, Jesse Pinkman, after leaving Albuquerque.

"I'm going to tell you all some news that I've been dying to tell you for some time,"



Aaron  
Paul

he offered. "Listen, there's some super top-secret news that I am so proud to tell all of you. It's very exciting."

Except that it was all a joke. And fans got so worked up after it that he had to tweet an apology: "Sorry for the joke, everybody." Not cool, Pinkman.

Not cool. In not-fake news, the 35-year-old Paul was recently cast in Central Intelligence, an upcoming action-comedy starring Kevin Hart and Dwayne Johnson.





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[illegible]



## Features pack Lexus NX 300h



JIL MCINTOSH/FOR METRO

### THE CHECKLIST 2015 LEXUS NX 300H

#### THE BASICS

**Type.** Four-door, five-passenger compact hybrid SUV.  
**Engine (hp).** 2.5-litre I4 with hybrid system (154 gas only, 194 gas/electric).  
**Transmission.** Continuously variable (CVT).  
**Price.** \$59,450 (as tested), plus destination.

#### POINTS

- The NX 300h slots under the company's larger and deservedly popular RX hybrid. Lexus makes a total of six different hybrid cars and SUVs.
- The non-hybrid NX 200t starts at \$41,450 and goes to \$53,550.



JIL MCINTOSH/FOR METRO

#### COOL FEATURES

- Heated and ventilated front seats.
- Power-folding rear seats.
- Heated steering wheel.
- Head-up display.
- Touchpad infotainment control.
- Adaptive cruise control.
- Power liftgate.

#### MARKET POSITION

- The compact hybrid SUV segment is a very slim one, and the NX 300h really has only Infiniti as a competitor. There aren't many hybrid SUVs overall, but most are larger and pricier than the NX.

#### THE COMPETITION



**Infiniti QX60 Hybrid**  
Base price: \$54,900



**Lexus RX 450h**  
Base price: \$63,250



**Porsche Cayenne S E-Hybrid**  
Base price: \$87,700

#### REVIEW

### Compact SUV could be more fun to drive, though

**Jil McIntosh**  
For Metro

Toyota was the first automaker to launch a hybrid, and over the years, it has used that technology in a number of Toyota and Lexus vehicles. Many of them are very good, but it falls a little short in the Lexus NX 300h, its all-new compact SUV.

You can get the NX with a conventional turbocharged 2.0-litre engine, while the 300h uses a 2.5-litre four-cylinder with electric motor and storage battery. The system automatically runs on gasoline, electricity, or a combination of the two, depending on what's needed. The system recharges the battery itself, and you don't plug it in.

The regular NX 200t starts at \$41,450 and has five trim levels, but the 300h hybrid comes in a single, fully loaded, all-wheel-drive model for \$59,450.

The styling is edgy, and Lexus says it's the company's first hybrid with a kick-down function when you want a

burst of acceleration. But while I went in expecting at least some sporty performance because of that, I was disappointed. The steering is mushy, the brakes are grabby, and the engine drones. The only real payoff was an average of 6.6 L/100 kilometres in combined driving, which turned out to be better than the published numbers, and on regular-grade fuel.

The interior is all quality materials and stitched leather, but I had some issues here, as well. You use a touchscreen on the centre console to operate the infotainment system, but it's too sensitive and I had trouble hitting the icons, especially on uneven roads. There's a storage cover behind the wrist support that's topped with a removable cover. Flip it over, and it's a mirror. It's a nice idea in theory, I suppose, but I'm just seeing something that's easily broken or

lost.

The NX 300h does include a lot of features, such as adaptive cruise control, lane departure alert, power tilt and telescopic wheel, power-folding rear seats, ventilated front seats, head-up display, and wireless phone charging. But for the money, I expected something that would be a lot more fun to drive. The company may be known for hybrids, but even the leaders don't always get it right.

“

**Steering is mushy, the brakes are grabby**

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GT model shown



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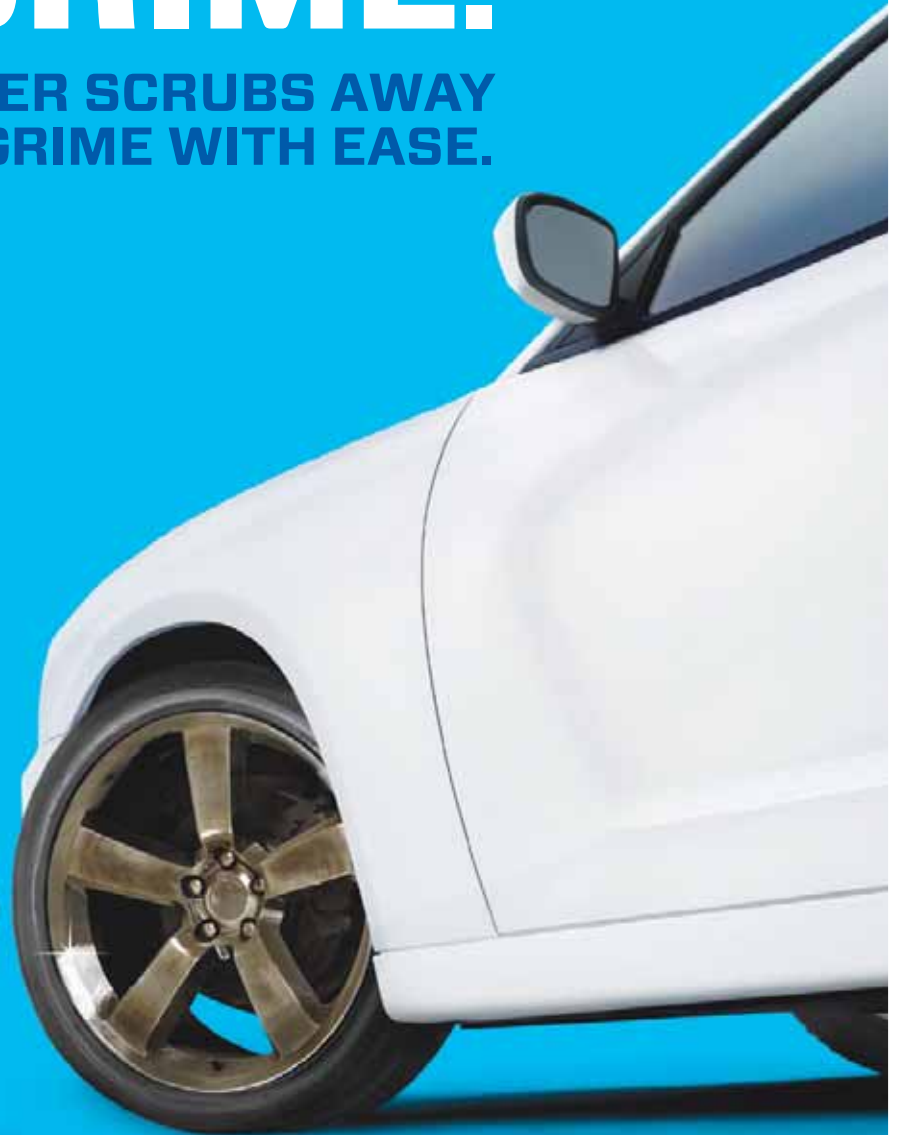






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# Avalon looks like a solid buy

## USED VEHICLE

### Electronic issues may dog 2004-2012 models

The Toyota Avalon takes a place above the Camry in the automaker's product lineup as a big, sophisticated luxury cruiser with a relatively simple goal: delivering an affordable taste of the motoring high life to its owners.

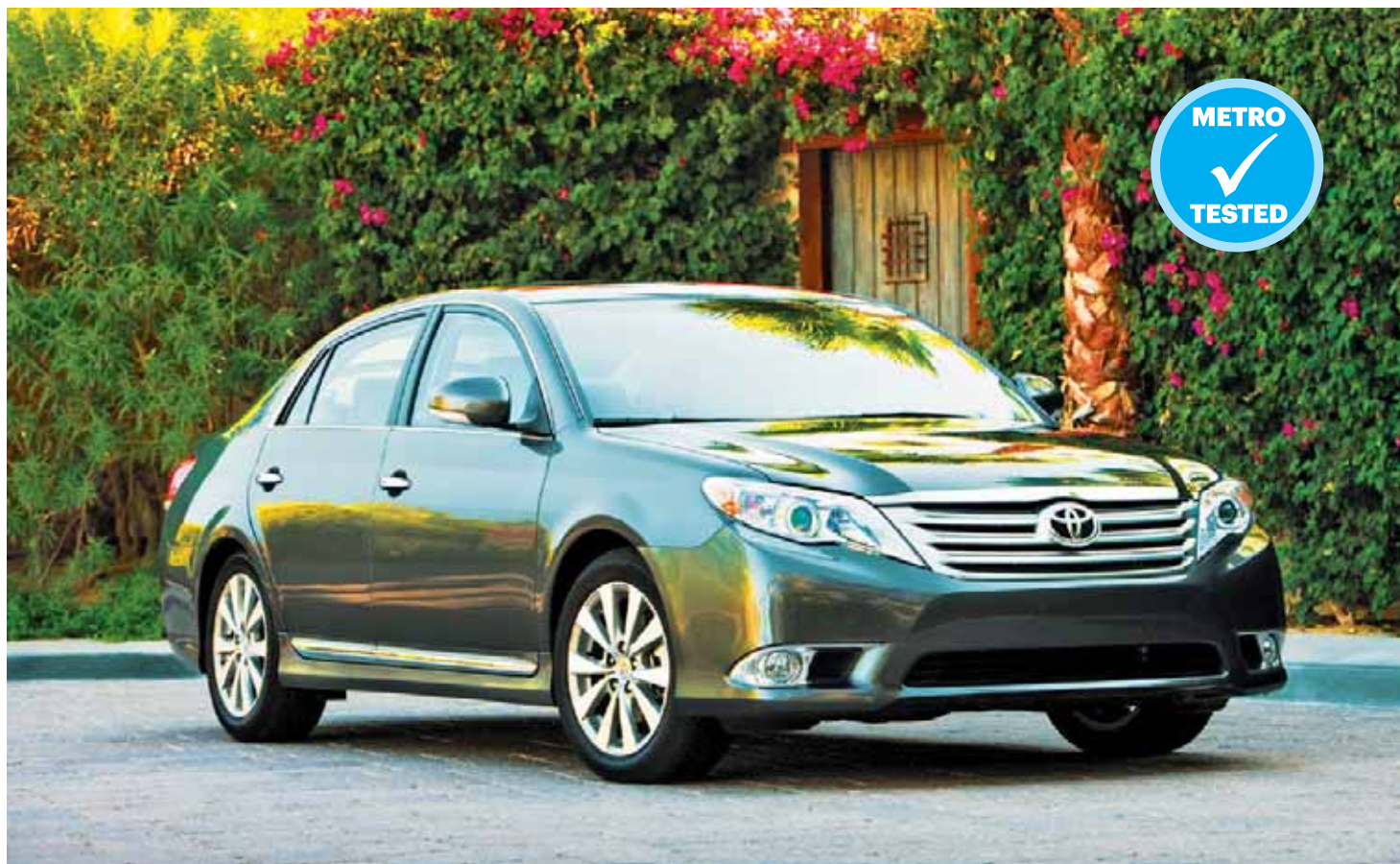
Avalon seems, largely, to have impressed its owners with reliable and trouble-free operation, though a few checks of any used unit you're contemplating should be considered mandatory.

Some owners reported frustrating and hard-to-track issues with some of Avalon's interior electronics. Extra attention is advised for the navigation system, climate controls, all cluster lights and the audio system.

Pair your Bluetooth phone, set a navigation destination, try all of the steering-wheel mounted controls and fiddle with the climate system for a few minutes, to be safe.

Shoppers of 2004 to 2012 models should also pay attention to Avalon's front end, noting any pulling or vibrating through the steering wheel that could indicate an alignment issue. Note any abnormal tire wear that's heavier on the inside or outside of the treads, which could indicate an alignment problem, too.

Listen for popping or clunking noises from the front and rear of the vehicle as you travel over rough roads at a variety of speeds. Unwelcome sounds could indicate a worn-out or damaged suspension component that will require some attention. JUSTIN PRITCHARD



#### Features

In the used marketplace, the Avalon will offer up hardware such as a CD changer, JBL audio system, self-dimming rear-view mirror, a sunroof, heated leather seats, in-cabin air filtration, navigation, Bluetooth and automatic climate control. Expect plenty of room to cruise in comfort with four or five adults.

#### Engines

All models received a 3.5-litre V6, making between 268 and 280 depending on the year. A five or six-speed automatic transmission was standard.

#### What owners like

Owners on the internet tend to rave about the roominess, comfort, luxury and quality imparted by the Avalon driving experience. The up-level audio system is said to deliver a noteworthy listening experience, too.

#### What owners dislike

Numerous complaints surfaced in online Avalon owner circles about the navigation system, occasional clumsy or harsh gear shifting, and bland cabin and body styling.

#### The verdict

Most Avalon owners have enjoyed largely trouble-free operation and plenty of confident kilometres from their machines. If the used unit you're considering doesn't exhibit any potential issues upon inspection by a trained mechanic, purchase confidently and expect a laid-back driving experience well suited to long-haul travels.

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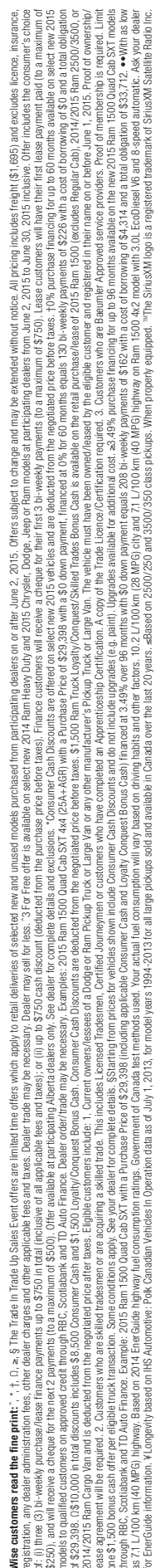
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A red Dodge Ram pickup truck is shown from a front-three-quarter view. The truck is parked on a dirt road, and the background features a mountain range under a bright, hazy sky. The truck's headlights are on, and its chrome grille and Ram logo are prominent.

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The Porsche 919 Hybrid zips around at Le Mans. CONTRIBUTED

# Porsche shows off its science

## EVENT

### Le Mans ignites excitement, fascination

#### AUTO PILOT

Mike Goetz



As science experiments go, the 24 Hours of Le Mans beats the heck out of making a *papier mâché* volcano erupt by combining baking soda, vinegar and dishwashing soap.

The world's most storied sports car race is much better at developing future technologies, and much more enjoyable from a spectator standpoint.

The 2015 edition of the race was run last weekend near Le Mans, France, and the science on display was particularly awesome and intriguing, as it was only the second year for regulations stipulating that race cars in the top category of LMP1 utilize at least one hybrid system, and are also limited in the amount of energy they may use in each lap.

This focus on energy efficiency brought Porsche back to fight in that top category and it did "real good" in 2015; the three-car factory team of 919 hybrid race cars finished first, second and fifth. It was the first outright win for Porsche since 1998, and stopped Audi's consecutive winning streak at five.

Let's take a quick look at Porsche's novel — and winning — hybrid technology, some of which is already on Porsche's production vehicles, and some of which will come on-stream later ...

• Porsche says the 919's 500-hp 2-litre turbocharged V-4 engine is a trailblazer in terms of fuel injection and internal friction.

• Similar to the road-going 918

Spyder, the 919 employs a generator at the front axle to convert kinetic energy into electricity during braking. The energy is stored in a very high tech lithium-ion battery, and released to an electric motor driving the front axle, in effect making the 919 an AWD vehicle under acceleration. The electrical energy is equivalent to 400 extra horsepower.

• The 919 also uses a second recovery system. A turbine generator unit in the exhaust system works in parallel with the turbocharger, to convert energy from the exhaust-gas stream into electricity. So the 919 recovers energy not only when braking, but also when accelerating.

• Audi and Nissan use flywheel devices, and Toyota uses an electrochemical supercapacitor device, to store the electricity generated by their respective race-car energy recovery systems. Those two systems are generally better at absorbing and releasing elec-



Science that's fast, fun and loud

tricity quickly, and are lighter, but Porsche felt its new-design lithium-ion battery, which features individual-ly cooled cells,

could store more electricity, and so was better suited for the demands of Le Mans, and for future hybrid sports cars.

• Next year the science experiments will continue, and we'll have a bit of Canadian technology to cheer on. Ford announced it would be going endurance racing next year with its all-new Ford GT supercar in the LM GTE category.

Like the production Ford GT, the race GT will have its carbon-fibre chassis built at Multimatic Motorsports, in Markham, Ont., and will showcase the aerodynamic and lightweight possibilities of this new vehicle material.

Science that's fast, fun and loud? Now that's good science.



The Ford GT supercar. CONTRIBUTED



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# Modern-day dynasty

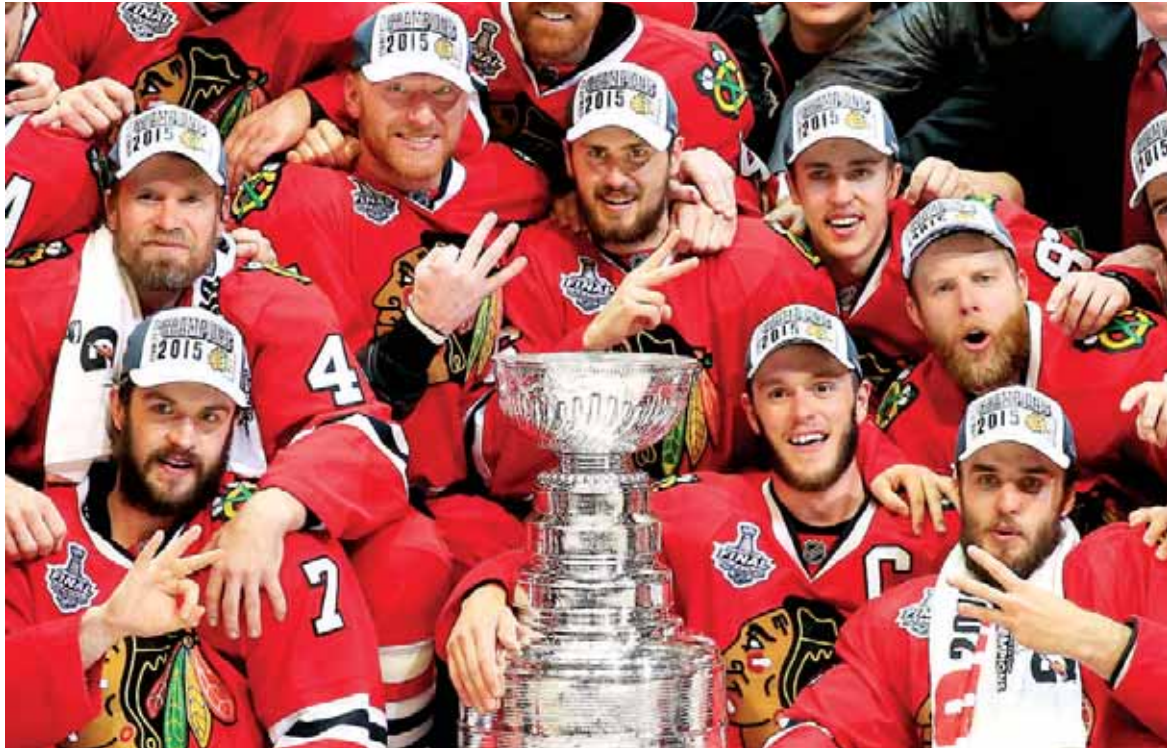
**NHL**  
**Blackhawks**  
**proving they**  
**are the model**  
**team in cap era**

Embracing on the ice while celebrating their second Stanley Cup together, blossoming Chicago Blackhawks star Brandon Saad and general manager Stan Bowman already started looking forward to the next one.

"We gave a hug and I said, 'This is the first of many, we're going to win a lot together,'" Bowman said. "He gave me a big hug and said, 'Let's go.'"

The Blackhawks' core of Jonathan Toews, Patrick Kane, Patrick Sharp, Duncan Keith, Brent Seabrook and Marian Hossa is already up to three Cups in six years, an incredible feat in the NHL's salary-cap era. While the cap was designed to prevent this kind of domination, Chicago has thrived with stars who shine in the playoffs and an ever-changing mix of role players and young contributors.

"It certainly is a credit to our leadership group on the team and also my staff has done a fantastic job drafting and developing players," Bowman said Monday night on the ice at the United Center. "The only way you make it work in this system is if you can have young players that you not only draft but you develop, or you find them as free agents and



**The Blackhawks are a perennial contender to win the Cup. On Monday, they won their third championship in six years.**  
TASOS KATOPODIS/GETTY IMAGES

you develop them."

It has worked so well that the Blackhawks are starting to hear the word "dynasty" a lot. Commissioner Gary Bettman, a proponent and supporter of league-wide parity, told the crowd and team they had a dynasty when presenting Toews with the Cup.

They're not a dynasty by the

**Three in six years is amazing. What more can you really ask for, and we were so close last year, too.** Patrick Kane

traditional definition like the 1970s Montreal Canadiens or the 1980s New York Islanders or Edmonton Oilers, but like the Detroit Red Wings in the late 1990s and early 2000s, they've won multiple titles. In the cap-era they're the NHL's

team of the decade.

Mark Messier, the captain of that Oilers dynasty, said during the final that a third Cup for the Blackhawks would be "an incredible feat."

"They're definitely a team on the cusp of being called a dynasty," Messier said last week. "There is no question about it." THE CANADIAN PRESS

**MLB**  
**Mets' Harvey grills Jays over seven scoreless innings**



**Edwin Encarnacion of the Blue Jays is tagged out at third base by the Mets' Ruben Tejada on Tuesday.** JIM MCISAAC/GETTY IMAGES

Matt Harvey returned to form with seven shutout innings and an RBI double, leading the New York Mets to a 3-2 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays on Tuesday night.

Bobby Parnell earned a five-out save in his third outing since Tommy John surgery, and the NL East leaders held on without their top late relievers.

One night after ending Toronto's 11-game winning streak, the Mets won for the fifth time in six games and improved to 11-0 at home against the Blue Jays.

Wilmer Flores and Ruben

TUESDAY In New York

3

METS

2

BLUE JAYS

Tejada each knocked in a run and scored another to help New York build a 3-0 cushion. Harvey (7-4), who was 1-3 with a 7.20 ERA in his previous four starts, allowed four hits against the best offense in baseball and gave a huge fist pump after working a perfect seventh.

The ace right-hander struck out six, walked none and was lifted after 107 pitches.

The Blue Jays rallied for a pair of runs in the eighth inning. Jose Bautista cut the deficit to two runs with a sacrifice fly before Edwin Encarnacion had a run-scoring single.

Scott Copeland (1-1) was pulled for a pinch hitter in the fifth. He pitched again in place of Jays right-hander Aaron Sanchez, put on the 15-day disabled list Monday with a mild lat muscle strain.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Klassen expected to retire

Decorated speedskater Cindy Klassen is expected to announce her retirement Saturday at a news conference in Winnipeg.

Klassen is the only Canadian athlete to win five medals at a single Olympic Games with a gold, two silver and two bronze at the 2006 Winter Games in Turin, Italy.

Jacques Rogge, the president of the International Olympic Committee at the time, dubbed Klassen "the woman of the Games."

Another bronze in 2002 ties Klassen with former teammate Clara Hughes as the most Olympic medals won by a Canadian athlete.

Klassen, 35, hasn't raced the last two years. She suffered a concussion while inline skating in the summer of 2013.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Red Sox ride Holt's cycle to victory over Braves

Brock Holt became the first Boston player to hit for the cycle since 1996 and the Red Sox slugged their way out of a seven-game losing streak with a 9-4 victory over the Atlanta Braves on Tuesday.

Holt's solo homer in the seventh put Boston up 5-2, leaving him a triple from completing the cycle. He got another at-bat in the eighth after Boston added two more runs and hit a fly ball to the triangle in centre field at Fenway Park. Holt easily reached third and drove in a run.

It was the first cycle in the majors this season and the first for the Red Sox since John Valentin did it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA FINALS

VS.

Golden State Warriors

Cleveland Cavaliers

Go to metronews.ca for coverage of Game 6 of the Finals.



# World Cup crystal ball



## ROUND OF 16

**BC Place, Vancouver Sunday, June 21**

**Who Canada would like to play:** Cameroon

**Who they'd like to avoid:** Switzerland

Cameroon is the lowest-ranked team to reach the round of 16, but they were a formidable in Group C, beating Ecuador by six and only falling to holders Japan 2-1. The Swiss were eliminated by Cameroon on Tuesday. Canada would be favoured to comfortably beat Cameroon.

**Will they move on?:** Likely.



With Canada clinching first place in Group A and a place in the next round, here's a look at one route the team could take on their way to the final in Vancouver

## THIRD-PLACE GAME

**Commonwealth Stadium, July 4**

**Who they'd like to play:** United States

**Who they'd like to avoid:** Germany

Two of the tournament's greatest forces, Germany and the United States, could usurp the finals earlier in the week when they meet up in a semi-final cracker in Montreal. It would take Abby Wambach and company a performance of a lifetime to defeat the Germans, meaning the Canada-USA rivalry of late could be reignited in the fight for third.

**Likelihood of third-place finish:** Good.

## CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

**BC Place, July 5**

**Who they'd like to play:** United States

**Worst-case scenario:** Germany

Canadian coach John Herdman has openly spoken about his dream final, where captain Christine Sinclair hoists the World Cup in her hometown after defeating the Americans. His ideal scenario, though unlikely, is not simply ideal because of the romance factor: Canada would have much better a chance against the United States than world No. 1 Germany. But it would be a shock for Germany to be knocked out before the final and, like in the semi-finals against Japan, Canada will have to play above their grade if they want to sneak a win, no matter if the whole country's behind them.

**Likelihood of hoisting the Cup:** Slim.

## QUARTER-FINALS

**BC Place, June 27**

**Who they'd like to play:** England

**Who they'd like to avoid:** Norway

Norway stormed through Group B with an offensive prowess missing from the Canadian lineup, only missing out on top spot to Germany through goal difference. Canada would be better off facing the Lionesses, who have had a mediocre run and who they defeated before the World Cup. Canada will be reliant on fans to give them the home edge and propel the team to victory.

**Will they move on?:** It's a toss-up.

## SEMI-FINALS

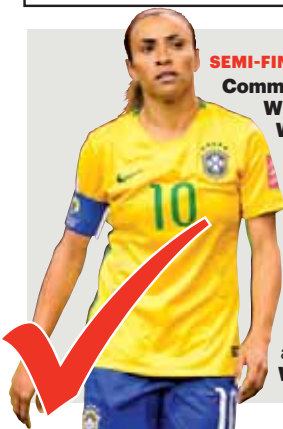
**Commonwealth Stadium, Edmonton, July 1**

**Who they'd like to play:** Brazil

**Who they'd like to avoid:** Japan

Holders Japan were the first team to clinch their group in the first round and, despite only managing narrow wins over Switzerland and Cameroon, neither a loss or a draw ever really looked like it was in the cards. Japan could be the first top-five ranked team Canada will face in the tournament and it will be a true test to see if the Canadians can keep up with the finest in the world. Based on the home team's performances so far, it's hard to see Canada mounting a real challenge against the Japanese. Avoiding a heavy defeat and striving for another third-place finish might be their best bet.

**Will they move on?:** Destined for third place.



Torstar News Service PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

## WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

# Lawrence making her presence felt



Canadian midfielder Ashley Lawrence, right, celebrates her goal against the Netherlands with teammate Josee Belanger on Monday in Montreal. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Midfielder Ashley Lawrence has never scored a more important goal in her young career.

On the biggest stage in women's soccer, the 20-year-old recorded Canada's only goal in a 1-1 draw with the Netherlands at the FIFA Women's World Cup on Monday night. The first-half strike was enough to give Canada top spot in Group A.

"She's been lighting it up in midfield," head coach John Herdman said of Lawrence. "A little bit of pace ... and just that composure to finish that goal. She certainly had the bit between her teeth." Ten minutes into Monday's contest, Lawrence — a Toronto native — pounced on a loose ball for Canada's first open-play goal of the tournament.

Right back Josee Belanger got the play going from the side-

## ON THE BOARD

With her goal on Monday, Lawrence became Canada's third youngest scorer in a World Cup.

lines. Her throw-in was deflected by captain Christine Sinclair to Sophie Schmidt, whose shot was blocked by Dutch defender Mandy van den Ber. The ball bounced right to Lawrence, who side-footed the ball home for her first international goal in her 21st appearance.

"John really stressed as a midfielder just getting forward and into the right positions," Lawrence said after Monday's draw. "It was a great cross and the deflection came out and I just finished." THE CANADIAN PRESS

## WOMEN'S WORLD CUP ROUND UP

**Wambach strike helps USA top group, Australia also through after Sweden draw**  
Abby Wambach scored just before halftime Tuesday as the United States defeated Nigeria 1-0 at the FIFA Women's World Cup.

The American captain flicked her boot at a Megan Rapinoe corner kick in the 45th minute, slicing the ball home to give the U.S. a deserved lead.

With the victory, the Americans won Group D — the so-called "Group of Death" because the U.S., Sweden and Australia are all ranked in the top-10 — with seven points and will play its match in the round of 16 on Monday in Edmonton.

Elsewhere, Australia secured second spot in the

group after tying Sweden 1-1 in Edmonton. The Australians wound up with five points, while the Swedes picked up its third straight draw to finish third with three points. Nigeria, meanwhile, completed its World Cup at the bottom of the group with a tie and two losses.

The 35-year-old Wambach, who had blamed a lack of U.S. goals on the tournament's use of artificial turf, came off the bench as a substitute in her team's 0-0 draw with Sweden on Friday.

She got nod the from the start in this one alongside fellow striker Alex Morgan, leading the charge for an American side that had a number of chances before the breakthrough.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



## RECIPE Flank Steak with Cherry Tomatoes, Pine Nuts and Feta



### EAT LIGHT AT HOME

**Rose Reisman**  
rosereisman.com

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Planning your patio season celebrations? This is a great meal for outside entertaining. Serves six.

### Ready in

Prep time: 5 minutes  
Cook time: 10 minutes

### Ingredients

- 1 1/2 lb flank steak
- Salt and pepper
- 2 tsp olive oil
- 1 1/2 cup sliced cherry or grape tomatoes (yellow and red), sliced in half
- 3 Tbsp toasted pine nuts
- 1 1/2 oz crumbled feta cheese
- 3 Tbsp chopped basil

### Directions

- Season steak with salt

and pepper. Grill for about five minutes per side, depending upon thickness, until cooked to your preference. For medium rare, let temperature reach 130 F. Let sit for 10 minutes. Alternatively, bake at 425F for the same amount of time.

**2.** Meanwhile, in large skillet, add olive oil and sauté tomatoes for two minutes.

**3.** Slice steak thinly across the grain and spread tomatoes, nuts, feta and basil over top.

### Nutrition per serving

- Calories 280
- Carbohydrates 1 g
- Fibre 1 g
- Protein 34 g
- Fat 15 g
- Saturated fat 6 g
- Cholesterol 55 mg
- Sodium 150 mg

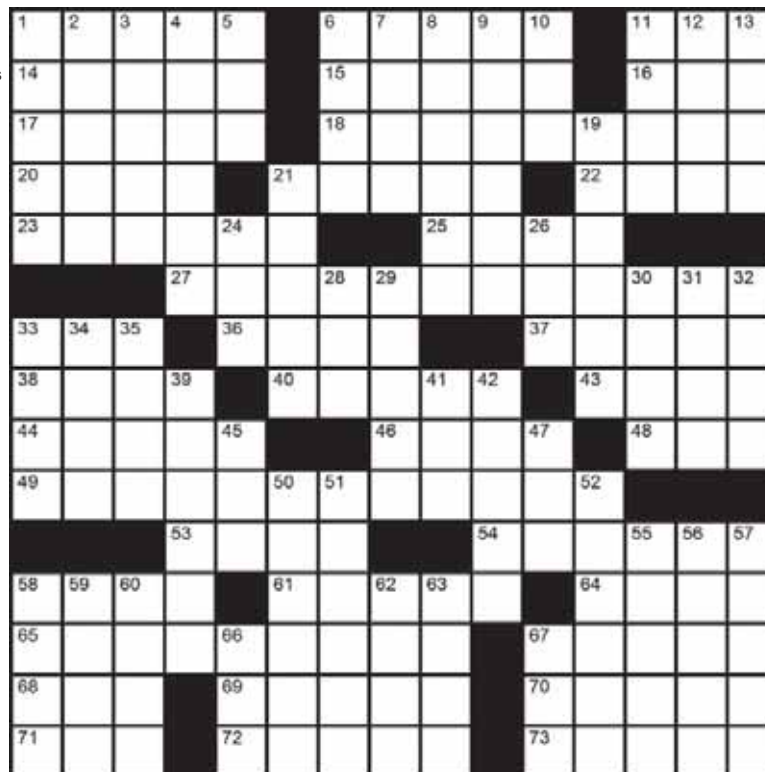
PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

## CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

### ACROSS

- Old \_\_ (Men's grooming brand)
- "I'm not sure if that's good \_\_ news?"
- Premium auto
- Nutty pie
- Ms. Wither-spoon
- "Well, \_\_ -di-dahl!"
- Scottish land-owner
- Bryan Adams' "I know not what I do" song, with Please: 2 wds.
- Banda \_\_ (City in Sumatra in Indonesia)
- 'Mechanical Resonance' band
- Off
- Queen's chair
- Tehran's locale
- Corner Brook \_\_
- \_\_ Limited (Company in Newfoundland that manages about 3.6 'mill'ion acres of forest)
- \_\_ Na Na
- Change direction
- Fearless
- School year division
- Paving stones
- Mr. Kristoferson
- Yukon-Alaska peak, Mount Saint \_\_
- 'Special' suffixes
- Model Carol
- McCain crust-and-filling snacks: 2 wds.



- Aahs cohorts
- Heaps
- Dirt
- Signs
- Warmth
- Fundy \_\_
- Adventures (Shubenacadie River tour provider in Nova Scotia)
- Rigatoni

- \_\_-encompassing
- Brings to life a ballad
- Signs
- Record
- "See ya."
- Carpentry grooves
- Cup, in Montreal

### DOWN

- Fallen tomato's sound
- Summery fruit
- More frigid
- Arnold's server on "Happy Days"
- Conclusion
- Ornamental pond fish, Golden \_\_

- Vintage autos
- City in Leonard Cohen's "First We Take Manhattan"
- Mount in Nunavut sharing the name of The Aesir's home in Norse mythology
- Agnus \_\_ (Mass prayer)

- Bungled
- Family member
- \_\_ protein powder
- Joan of "Knots Landing": 2 wds.
- Vancouver-headquartered communications company
- Cashew
- Police alert, commonly
- Before
- Caper
- Prefix to 'normal'
- Super nasty
- Break
- Footprint
- Prefix to 'copter'
- Tucson's li'l state
- Corn oil brand
- "Tut-tut!"
- Thorny rose parts
- Brazil: \_\_ Louis
- Pou \_\_ (Vantage point)
- Fear of something
- Donny or Marie
- "CBC News Now" host Ms. Meharhand
- Tree abodes
- Fig's friends
- Gawk
- Wild guess
- Slick
- Laze
- Thus
- Loch \_\_ Monster
- John Lennon's unintended acronym
- Arfer, for one

## ★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

**Aries** March 21 - April 20  
No matter how far out your ideas you can find ways to make them work. It is sometimes said that everyone with a new idea is considered a crank, until the idea works. Your critics will soon be calling you a genius!

**Taurus** April 21 - May 21  
If you take a chance today you could hit the jackpot. There are no guarantees but the planets promise if you have done your homework and planned things carefully you could easily be a winner.

**Gemini** May 22 - June 21  
If you did not do something remarkable yesterday you will certainly do something remarkable today. Even if you are one of life's rare shy and retiring Geminis you will find ways to show the world what you can do.

**Cancer** June 22 - July 23  
If you are the kind of Cancer who hates to see injustice then now is the time to do something about it. There are so many good causes out there and all of them crying out for people with your brand of compassion.

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23  
The speed of your actions will take everyone by surprise. If a friend is in some kind of trouble you will go out of your way to help them, then a little bit further to take care of the source of the problem too.

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23  
Many things are changing and you will have to adapt quickly if you want to stay one step ahead of your rivals. One day you will look back and give thanks that you were forced to move in a new direction.

**Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23  
You may have good reasons for wanting to keep information from certain individuals but it's unlikely the planets will let you. Once they know what you do, your the advantage will be gone but you're still better than they are.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22  
You may find it very difficult to stay in control of your emotions today, but why would you want to? Sometimes it's good to let everything out, especially if you have been storing up negative feelings.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21  
Something rather shocking is likely to happen today. In a few days time you will realize you should have seen it coming. Be that as it may you are flexible enough to adapt and survive. You may even thrive.

**Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20  
Decide what needs to be done, then get on and do it. While your rivals are wasting time arguing about this and that you will be out there in the real world making things happen.

**Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19  
Following on from yesterday's new moon you will be in a highly creative mood and whatever you work on over the next 24 hours will bring you a great deal of joy and success. Follow your dream wherever it takes you.

**Pisces** Feb. 20 - March 20  
A friend or relative will surprise everyone by what they do today and emotions are likely to be running high as a result. You though must remain calm and not let your own biases affect your judgment. It's not a matter of life or death.

### CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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